

# THE LANCET

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No. 1418.

LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1854.

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**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—**  
FACULTY OF ARTS AND LAWS.  
The Lectures to the Classes in this Faculty will be RESUMED  
on WEDNESDAY, the 10th of January, 1855.  
Such a division of the subjects is made, in most Classes, as  
enables a student to enter advantageously at this part of the Course.  
Prospectuses and further particulars may be obtained at the  
Office of the College.  
AUGUSTUS DE MORGAN, Dean of the Faculty.  
OHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.  
Dec. 29, 1854.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—**  
JUNIOR SCHOOL, under the Government of the Council  
of the College.  
Head Master—THOMAS H. KEY, A.M.  
The School will RE-OPEN for new Pupils on Tuesday the 10th  
of January, 1855, at a quarter-past 9; for former Pupils on Wed-  
nesday the 17th, at a quarter-past 10. The hours of attendance  
must appear in their places without fail. The hours of attendance  
are from a quarter-past 9 to three-quarters past 3. The afternoons  
of Wednesday and Saturday are devoted to Drawing. The Subjects  
taught are—Reading, Writing, the English, Latin, Greek, French,  
German languages, Ancient and English History, Geography,  
both Physical and Political, Arithmetic and Book-keeping, the  
Elements of Mathematics, of Natural Philosophy, and of Chemistry,  
and Drawing.  
Fee for the Term, 6s.  
Prospectuses and further particulars may be obtained at the  
Office of the College.  
OHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary.  
Dec. 29, 1854.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—**  
LECTURES ON POLITICAL ECONOMY, by Professor  
WALEY, M.A., Fellow of the College. A Course of about Twenty  
Lectures, commencing on JANUARY 11th, 1855. Subjects:—  
Production and Distribution of Wealth, including Principles of  
Population, and Theories of Value, Profits, and Rent—Theory of  
Value—Money, Credit, Currency, Foreign Trade, Taxation. Fee,  
5s. Lectures on THURSDAYS, from 5 to 6 p.m.  
Students of the Schoolmaster's Classes will be admitted to these  
Lectures gratuitously.  
AUGUSTUS DE MORGAN, Dean of the  
Faculty.  
CHARLES C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.  
Dec. 29th, 1854.

**THE ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION AND**  
COLLECTION OF PATENTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.  
connected with ARCHITECTURE is NOW OPEN at the Gal-  
lery of the Society of British Artists, Suffolk-street, Pall Mall  
East.—Admission, One Shilling; Season Tickets, for Students and  
others desiring to come often, Half-a-crown. Catalogues, Sixpence.  
JAS. FERGUSON, F.R.S., Hon. Sec.  
JAS. EDMISTON, Jun., Sec.  
Dec. 29, 1854.

**BOARD OF TRADE, DEPARTMENT OF**  
SCIENCE AND ART.  
AID TO PUBLIC SCIENTISTS IN OBTAINING EXAMPLES  
FOR ART-INSTRUCTION.  
The Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade having  
resolved to furnish examples to Schools in accordance with the  
plan adopted by the Committee of Privy Council for Education,  
and to discontinue the practice of keeping a stock of such articles  
as the Department, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on and  
after the 1st of January, 1855, Examples will not be applied  
directly from the Department of Science and Art as at present,  
but through Agents in London and the Provinces.  
Forms of application for aid, and further information, may be  
obtained at the Office, Horse-guards, Pall Mall, London.  
Marlborough House, 20th November, 1854.

**MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY.**  
The following COURSES OF LECTURES are about to be  
commenced:—  
Thirty-six Lectures on APPLIED MECHANICS, by Professor  
WILLIS, F.R.S., commencing on Wednesday, January 3, at 10  
P.M. Lectures on the GEOLOGY OF GREAT BRITAIN, F.R.S.  
commencing Thursday, January 4, at 2 P.M.  
Sixty Lectures on MINING, by Mr. Warrington Smyth, M.A.  
commencing Monday, January 8, at 8 P.M.  
The Morning Lectures on CHEMISTRY, by Dr. Hofmann,  
F.R.S., will be resumed on the 8th, and the Evening Lectures on  
the 10th, of January.  
The Metallurgical Laboratory, under the direction of Dr. Percy,  
F.R.S., will be re-opened on the 1st, and the Chemical Laboratory,  
under the direction of Dr. Hofmann, on the 8th, of January.  
For further information apply to the Registrar, at the Museum,  
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**THE LABORATORY OF THE ROYAL**  
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cantile or Agricultural Products are performed with despatch,  
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having been represented to the Council that the wording of  
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Act of Parliament, would seem to imply that all Insurers, for Life,  
Sickness, or Terminable Annuities, are necessarily to participate  
in the benefits of the Augmentation Fund, and that this would  
compromise the independence of the persons to be insured, NOTICE  
IS HEREBY GIVEN, that such is not the design of the Institution,  
and that the proposed By-Laws have been amended by the  
Council to render the Insurance clear.  
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tion by Act of Parliament, are kept filed at the office, and may be  
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preparatory to the Universities, the Military Colleges, and the  
Army Examinations. French and German assistants reside on  
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the Rev. J. F. DARTMOUTH, M.A., Rector of St. Mary's  
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**GENERAL AND SCIENTIFIC EDUCA-**  
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EDUCATION—all or any of which may be made more or less  
prominent in the plan of study, as may be deemed desirable in  
any particular instance. 4. FORTIFICATION, DRAWING,  
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CRYSTAL PALACE: A Sketch. Square.

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**TO THE EDITOR OF THE ATHENÆUM.**

Sir,—My attention having been called to a paragraph in the *Art-Journal* of this month, containing statements in reference to an engraving on which I am engaged, prejudicial to my character, and which entirely misrepresents the facts of the case, I respectfully beg to reply through the medium of the *Athenæum*. The writer, Mr. S. C. Hall, states: "We placed this picture, 'Vintage in the South of France,' in the hands of Mr. J. Ostrin, engraver, on the 29th of September, 1851, and by his written agreement he was bound, under a penalty, to deliver it finished, executed in the best manner of which he is capable, on the 31st of July, 1852, &c. &c." This statement is entirely untrue. The picture or other drawing was not placed in my hands till after the lapse of many weeks from the above-mentioned date,—it being then, as Mr. Hall is perfectly aware, in some part of the kingdom where it had been sent for exhibition, and could not be far more serious interruption was occasioned by one of the proprietors of the *Vernon Gallery* sending me the picture in my hands for the purpose of having it copied, and, instead of returning the original, sold it, and sent me the copy, a work pronounced by Mr. Uwins, R.A. to be totally unfit for the purpose of engraving; and that for many months I never saw the original.

The real cause of delay, however, was breach of faith on the part of Mr. Hall himself. It was a question of payment, in regard to which I had a special account with Mr. Hall,—a verbal one, it is true; but he, having sold his interest in the work to Mr. Virtue, seemed to think his agreement with me at an end, or, sold too, and coolly left me to the tender mercies of that gentleman,—from whom I at length received the picture, and, in the event of my engraving was not finished I should have to look to his solicitor for the payment. Now, being a family man, and having a desire "to provide things honest in the sight of all men," in the perplexity I quietly laid aside the plate, thinking I might as well wait till they should come to a more honourable determination.

This is simple unadorned truth, and I am sure that any gentleman who is not under a penalty, it was never agreed to by me, nor is there any mention of it whatever in my printed duplicate of the agreement.

I am compelled further to state, that Mr. Hall is indebted to me (as the sub-editor of the *Art-Journal* can testify) the price of an engraving I executed for him after Sir C. Eastlake,—but it is a debt of honour, and should not be paid in the event of his reminding him of that debt has called forth the attack in his *Art-Journal*—and this, in addition to a letter I have received from him in the highest degree libellous and insulting.

And now, Sir, as the opportunity may never again occur, permit me to lay before your readers a few facts, in order to convey some idea of the present and prospective condition of LINE ENGRAVING, and of the patronage afforded it by the proprietors of the *Art-Journal*. In the *Annals* of 1833, Mr. Hall states that "the average cost of each plate engraving has been 10s. 6d. and 11s. 6d. and the sums of 100, 120, and even 180 guineas have been frequently paid for plates, in size not above four inches by three," (I may add, that the engravers of those plates well earned the sums they received);—while of the *Vernon Gallery* plates, which are nearly four times as large, it may, I think, be safely affirmed that the average cost has not exceeded 70 guineas.

Mr. Hall used frankly to admit that his prices were low, only "half a loaf";—not so now, having succeeded in establishing those prices, complaint or remonstrance is of no avail,—on the contrary, we are unobtrusively told that some of the best Continental engravers offer to work for him at five shillings per day!! Again and again I have been told this.

Whether these foreign engravers now employed on the Queen's Galleries are actually engaged on these terms, I am unable to say; but I can state, on unquestionable authority, that Mr. Hall has received for his share in the *Vernon Gallery* no less a sum than 15,000*l.* In this I rejoice, because Mr. Hall, ever large and liberal in promises, has repeatedly said, that in the event of his work succeeding, the engravers should be the first to feel the benefit;—therefore, it might be fairly expected that the gentlemen employed on the Royal Collection would be remunerated after a more royal manner. What is the fact? Mr. Hall, we know, has enlarged the dimensions of those plates;—that he has increased the price, we have yet to learn.

From these facts, it must be evident that the condition of line engraving under *Art-Journal* patronage is becoming deplorable in the extreme,—that the special mission of the editor of that Journal would appear to be, to degrade line engraving from its rank as a Fine Art, and reduce it to the level of the meanest occupation,—and truly the work is well nigh accomplished. The generous gift of the Royal Collection would be remunerated after a more royal manner. What is the fact? Mr. Hall, we know, has enlarged the dimensions of those plates;—that he has increased the price, we have yet to learn.

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## REVIEWS

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THERE was a time when the French, at least, were disposed to believe that the sun illumined no portion of earth save that which extends from Paris to Versailles. Dumas, if we remember rightly, makes one of his dramatic characters declare that all people who lived beyond the above-named limits merely existed in a sort of uncomfortable darkness. They who dwelt within the limits had the great Louis himself for sun,—“*nec pluribus impar*,” worth half-a-dozen of the solar fires that stud the firmament.

Splendid, however, as was the shrine of this god, majestic as was the deity himself, and glittering as were his worshippers, there was something earthy about them all. Noble gentlemen in those crowded rooms sometimes cut purses from their neighbours' sides, and occasionally cheated at cards. In one night the whole of the gorgeous hangings in the *Galerie des Glaces* were carried off by a thief, whom the police could not, or dared not, touch. It was no vulgar robber who accomplished that feat, or the similar one which stripped the royal harness-rooms of all their valuable contents,—with perfect impunity. An ignoble offender would not have been overlooked by the King, who never scrupled to administer the cane to a household servant detected in dishonesty. Not that he respected what we may call the personality of nobility. He allowed Italian musicians to wear their hats in his presence, while he denied the privilege to his own sons. While he never passed the humblest female servant in the palace without raising his hand to his plumed beaver, he behaved coarsely to the half-dozen duchesses who used to accompany him in his capacious carriage. The great King would compel them to eat fruit and cakes till they could eat no longer; would frown his displeasure if they complained of fatigue or faintings; and would be out of humour if they had not recovered their appetites by dinner-time.

There was one woman, however, whom the great King never could impress with awe. This was the little Duchess of Burgundy, who affected such reverence for him, was so implicitly trusted by him, who cajoled him so thoroughly, read his despatches over his sacred shoulders, and betrayed their contents to his eagerly-expectant enemies. Louis so loved her company that he took her frequent *accouchements* as so many annoyances expressly contrived against himself; and he uttered a brutal expression of satisfaction when he heard on medical authority that the lady could never so molest him again. But the Duchess respected nobody,—not even herself. She took snuff immoderately, was by no means temperate with respect to drinking, sang songs which smacked of the guard-room, and thought it excellent discipline to be dragged by the legs round her own room by her servants; and as excellent fun to make “*Nanon*” perform offices for her when the King was in her bed-room, which did not indeed cause his Majesty to blush, but which forced him to as inextinguishable laughter as ever broke from his brother on Olympus.

The wit of the Duchess won pardon for her plainness; but even her eccentricities have failed to make her name as familiar to the world as those of other ladies,—of La Vallière, for instance, ever attractive, in spite of her slight

limp and the traces of small-pox on her cheeks;—of Montespan, fearless in presence of the King, but so terrified at thunder that she would make the galleries re-echo with her shrieks until a young child was brought to her whom she could hold as a defence between her and heaven;—of Maintenon, whose most frequent mission in the King's waning years was to mix and carry his medicine to his bedside. There was a Queen, for a season, in this royal household, but her mission, for a long period, was to utter a stereotyped phrase when she was informed that her exemplary husband had got a new mistress:—“That is no affair of mine. Let the old one look to it!” Of that highly religious and gracious King it is solemnly recorded that he changed his shirt and shaved only on alternate days, and that he never missed attending at mass but once throughout his lengthened term of life. Such was the deity above whose shrine might have been inscribed the words uttered by Cicero, in his oration *Pro Lege Manilia*, “*Domicilia regis, omnibus rebus ornata, atque referta*.”

The statue of Hoche, which now stands so proudly beneath the shadow of the stronghold of absolutism, is a good comment on the glory and policy of the “Grand Monarque.” How closely approximate the Palace and the Statue!—what a world of events, of ruin, and of triumph between them! The palace raised in testimony that the Bourbons were an institution, and the People nothing:—the statue, a proof that the People were everything, and the Bourbons dust. The inhabitants of Versailles are justly more proud of their townsman Hoche than they are of Louis, his memories and his monuments; and if they have not forgotten the glories of the King, far more fondly do they remember of their young hero, that he was a private soldier when a boy, and a General-in-Chief before he was fairly of the years of man. Except to our own Wolfe, the words of Tully, referring to Pompey, are to no one so applicable as to this young pacificator of La Vendée:—“*Extremâ pueritiâ miles fuit summi imperatoris, ineunte adolescentiâ maximi ipse exercitus imperator*.”

Louis had one worshipper who never failed in his devotion, and who never doubted as to the genuine and permanent greatness of the divine monarch whom he revered; and whose movements, from his expeditions against doomed cities to the effects of cathartics which had no respect for royalty, he has detailed with a wonderful and an unwearied minuteness. That individual was the Marquis de Dangeau,—of whom it may be most aptly said, that if he could not “suckle fools,” he was an excellent hand at chronicling “small beer.”

Phillip de Courcillon, Marquis de Dangeau, was the great-grandson of the good Du Pleissis Mornay,—and was born in 1638. He was a Huguenot; but one of that sort whose convictions were not the result of having been convinced. He accordingly became a convert and a captain of cavalry in Flanders. He was an accomplished and not a vicious gentleman; wrote agreeable verses, was extremely refined in his manners and unaffectedly kind of heart. Before he was a courtier, he was a soldier by predilection; and carried arms in the Spanish service, when the French *oriflamme* was rolled up, and put by in a canvas covering. There were two Queens in Paris who hailed his return with warm welcome,—the Queen-Mother and the Queen-Consort; both of whom loved to hear him talk—in Spanish, too—of their dearly-beloved Spain. They conferred upon him the greatest honour they had to bestow,—that of admitting him to lose his money to them at

their gaming-tables. The young soldier, however, was so skilful a player that he repeatedly broke the royal ladies' banks; and the demands of the two Queens upon the treasury were so exorbitant, that the attention of the supreme authorities was directed towards the manner of playing of a man who, while seeming never to be intent upon his game, invariably carried off the profit. The King himself undertook the office of spy upon the envied and suspected player; but after narrowly watching him, his Majesty pronounced his play fair, “*beau jeu*,” and forthwith invited him to his own table.

The fact was, that Phillip de Courcillon, who played at *reversis*, made a science of the affair, and applied to it a system of algebraic computation, of which he was as thorough a master as if he had been a *savant*, and not a fine gentleman. He once, when playing at a crowded table with the King, composed a poem of one hundred lines in length, learned it by rote as he composed and played; and at the end of a very noisy game, repeated the whole to the sovereign. The latter had promised to grant a particular favour applied for, on condition of this *tour de force* being duly achieved. The task was performed,—and the King kept his word.

From this time honours were thrust upon him, but he deemed no distinction as worth enjoying which did not bring him in contact with the King. He was employed on various missions, negotiated the marriage of Mary of Modena with James of York; and was the first to announce to that princess the safe arrival of her husband, when a fugitive in France. He made no secret of the fact, which, indeed, every one well knew, that his sole happiness consisted in being attached inseparably to the King's person and service. There was something of “old Adam” in his devotion, for he manifested the sterling worth of his loyalty by surrendering the whole of his plate to his royal master when fickle fortune was flying from that master's helm. We may add, that he was twice married, and had one son, who was in everything the reverse of his sire. His debaucheries brought him to a death-bed; but even there his blasphemies were uttered with such comic expression of sentiment that all who stood near him in tears suddenly wiped them away, and laughed outright.

We must say one word of Dangeau's celebrated brother, the Abbé. Voltaire described him perfectly in a single sentence, “*C'est un excellent académicien!*” His mind and feeling are perhaps as well illustrated by a *mot* of his own, when some one was deploring to him the critical condition of his country: “*Happen what will*,” said the mere grammarian, “*I have in my portfolio two or three thousand French verbs, very correctly conjugated!*”

The Marquis, when permanently installed at Versailles, commenced his celebrated *Journal* on the 1st of April, 1684, and continued it day by day till the 20th of August, 1720. On the 22nd he died, in the eighty-fourth year of his age. This manuscript work consists of some hundreds of volumes, duplicates of which have been made, and abridgments of which have been frequently published. It has been abused, sneered at, and plundered by Voltaire, but it has never been published in *extenso*. The volume before us is the first of some dozen, which will, however, not only contain the whole work unabridged, but also the commentary, and the additions made to it by the Duc de St. Simon,—and which, despite all that the Editors say against a man whose chief fault in the eyes of some of his detractors consists in his having been a Jansenist, are very like the juicy meat

and succulent vegetables which, the monk added to the pebbles and water wherewith he made his "stone soup."

Dangeau is known to have been a witty and an accomplished man, but there are no traces whatever of this in his Journal. The latter is a simple but strong daguerreotype of the court, but chiefly of the King. He omits nothing, and not only tells us when Louis, "Monseigneur," or La Dauphine took medicine, but often treats us as though we were the physicians who prescribed it, and are bound to know all the consequences. Dangeau was more than *valet de chambre* to Louis; but notwithstanding the familiarity, the proverbial result is never bred by it, and the mortal infirmities of the King, however offensive, do not make him less than a hero.

Of the real hero, nevertheless, there was little either in Louis or his family. The former, indeed, had some of the heroism of Nero, and sang songs made to his own praise, when France was making that rapid descent from which she was so rudely "brought up" by the Revolution. The Princes and Princesses danced with the "opera people," and the Dauphine was concerned about nothing so much as the casting of characters for the comedies to be played in her presence. As for "Monseigneur," he was forever occupied in hunting wolves or other game, killing his horses, and breaking the necks of his followers. A miserable man was he when the weather deprived him of these enjoyments, and a restless one. He could not sit quiet to play at any game, nor remain quiet even at mass. During the celebration of the latter he would either wander from "tribune" to "tribune," as though he were paying a series of visits to a round of opera-boxes, or he would suddenly dart out of chapel, rush to his gun, take a shot or two at anything he chanced to see moving in the nearest cover, and then back to chapel "just in time for the *salut*,"—thereby saving his devotional character, as being present at the elevation of the host was as good as having "assisted" at the whole service. The Marquis narrates it all as though it were natural and proper in a prince, and entirely blameless. But we must now turn to the pages of the Journal itself.

Sunday, 13 August, 1684.—The King said in the evening, at supper, that the Council had unanimously declared that second marriages were unfortunate. A Counsellor of State replied, "Sire, that can only apply to private individuals,"—and the King answered that there were great inconveniences for all sorts of people, without exception.

To this text we will subjoin a specimen of St.-Simon's "additions."

It was very extensively reported that Madame de Maintenon was about to be acknowledged. M. de Noyou (Clément Tonnerre), dining with the King, brought the conversation that way as was his custom; the King, too, as usual, rallied him by praising his dignities. The Bishop replied that in truth he desired no additional dignity but one, and being pressed to explain what that was, he rejoined by saying, that it would "be when the justice of the King should place a crown upon the brow of virtue." Every one looked down, the King more than any other; and, at last, the Bishop, like the rest,—feeling as he did by the profound and gloomy silence the weight of what he had thus risked. The King hastened to finish his dinner, during the remainder of which had a mouse run across the room it would have been heard, and passed hurriedly into his cabinet.

They who are particularly curious to see what light and spirit enter into the graphic pictures of St.-Simon, which are placed here as "additions" to the unembellished text of Dangeau, are referred to the capital story (p. 214) of how the Duchess de Lude treated a too audaciously gallant priest. It will not bear translation. A further specimen of the contrast

between the Jansenist Duke and the ex-Huguenot Marquis will be found at page 259. Dangeau simply notifies the decease of the Marshal de Villeroi. The gossiping St.-Simon adds a long string of anecdotes touching "ce bon homme Maréchal de Villeroi":—among others:—"C'était encore lui qui disait, qu'il fallait toujours tenir le p— aux ministres, tant qu'ils l'étaient, et quand le pied venait à leur glisser, le leur verser sur la tête!" In many cases, St.-Simon's comments and supplementary *addenda* are far longer than the passages which they are intended to explain. We often are induced to wish that they were always so. They remind us of 'Notes without Text,' which was intended to ridicule those editions of the Dutch classics wherein two words of the original are smothered in as many pages of unintelligible comment.

Dangeau has a characteristic contempt for orthography when writing English names. Among others, we find a Lord Harram, who was doubtless the Lord Arran who danced in a "masquerade" of six characters, the Duke of Monmouth and Lady Castlemaine being two of them, before Charles the Second and his Queen. Twenty years later, 1684, and just one before his death, he was as fond of dancing as ever. On Thursday, October 5, of that year, Dangeau thus writes:—

Madame la Dauphine, at a ball, refused milord Harram, who came to take her out, saying, that she would like to dance the "branze de Metz";—and thus put an end to the ball. The King approved what she had done, inasmuch as milord Harram was only a duke's son, and not a duke himself.

Lord Arran was the Duke of Ormond's son, and he was at least as good company as many around him in the *gay salon de danse*, where, as Dangeau remarks, on the following Monday, "a Swiss captain had his purse cut from him in the ball-room." It may be noticed that at this time English masters were teaching our sprightly neighbours to dance. On Friday, October 27, 1684, says the journalist,—

There was "appartement" in the evening. They danced the country-dances which an English master, named Isaac, had taught all the ladies. Madame la Dauphine left the ball-room in displeasure.

The Dauphin had to put her in good humour again,—not that he had much time for effecting that desired consummation. He was for ever in the saddle in pursuit of the wretched wolves, which must have been preserved for his royal sport. His devotion to this amusement, and the little regard he had for aught besides, reminds us of the Spanish King's letter to his wife, in 'Ruy Blas':—

*Il fait un grand vent, et j'ai tué six loups.*

It was after one of the balls that the King one night, on getting into bed, called M. de Turenne, and sternly reprimanded him on the disrespect with which he served him. St.-Simon adds a piquant supplement to this record.—

M. de Turenne, the eldest son of M. de Bouillon, and grand chamberlain *en survivance*, profited little by this correction; and at last got himself exiled. One morning, on putting the shirt upon the king, he neglected to take off his fringed gloves, the tassels of which struck the king sharply across the nose; and he was as much annoyed at it as it is possible to conceive.

His Majesty took as ill the rough philippics which he occasionally found dealt to him from the pulpit. When a court preacher terminated his series of sermons, he usually wound up with a "compliment." These were sometimes fulsome enough,—but not so with Bourdaloue.—

Monday, 25th of December, 1684.—The king and Monseigneur passed nearly the whole day in the chapel. Father Bourdaloue preached; and in his farewell compliment to the king, he attacked a vice which he strongly advised His Majesty to exter-

minate in his court. This sort of compliment was remarkable; and so, indeed, was the whole sermon.

The King apparently would not understand what was meant, and contented himself with ordering his "major" to take down the names of all the persons who "gossiped" in chapel during service. Madame de Montespan comprehended the allusion more readily, and sought the more eagerly to maintain herself in the King's favour. Accordingly, on the last night of the old year following on this unwelcome Christmas sermon,—

Madame de Montespan made a present to the King in the evening after supper. The gift consisted of a volume bound in gold, and full of pictures exquisitely representing all the cities in Holland captured by the King in 1672. The book cost her four thousand pistoles, as she told us. Racine and Despreaux (Boileau) wrote the descriptions, and added thereto an historical *éloge* of His Majesty. This was Madame de Montespan's New Year's Gift to the King; and it is impossible to imagine anything more rich, better executed, or more agreeable.

—Bourdaloue had told him he was all dust; the royal concubine, that he was all glory. The priest departed from Versailles; the mistress remained, and the old vice continued to be enthroned. The Lady's influence, however, was shaken; and on a Sunday, in the following February, we find it set down that— the King and Monseigneur, after mass, went each his separate way to shoot in the park. Madame de Montespan returned the same day from Paris, where she had been spending two or three days. During her absence the king went every evening, after supper, to the rooms of Madame de Maintenon.

The greatest enjoyment experienced by the King in 1685 was to hear, day after day, of the conversion of entire cities from the Protestant to the Romish faith. The process by which this result was attained was rather a curious one. Dragoons were ordered to certain cities given to the Reformed religion. Information of this fact no sooner reached the localities in question, than the authorities, dreading a massacre, met at the town-hall, and declared, for themselves and fellow-townsmen, that they had renounced their old faith for that of the King. His Majesty was delighted; obstinate individuals of high rank appear to have held out till their former convictions dissolved under the warmth of gratuities and pensions. When all France seemed thus to have been brought round to the royal way of thinking, Louis thought it the most natural thing in the world to revoke the Edict of Nantes, which gave toleration to Protestants. It is after the following fashion that Dangeau (who treats the most celebrated ministers of the Reformed religion with the compassionately contemptuous application of "*bonhomme*") notices the insignificant matter of the Revocation.—

"Friday, Oct. 19, 1685. The King went out shooting; Monseigneur to wolf-hunting, and gave a grand dinner on his return. In the evening there was 'appartement.' Two days ago the King ordered all the Huguenots established at Paris within the past year to quit it immediately; and we have just heard that the Chancellor this morning affixed his seal to the decree revoking the Edict of Nantes. All the Reformed churches will be destroyed. That of Charenton will be put under interdict on Sunday; and on Monday the decree for the revocation of the Edict of Nantes will be published throughout the kingdom. All Protestant ministers are ordered to leave the kingdom within a fortnight."

A few lines lower down we read that "in the evening the opera of 'The Temple of Peace' was represented for the first time, and everybody was delighted with it." On the fatal Monday, Oct. 22, the fact of the enregistrement of the decree of Revocation is "sandwiched" between the interesting announcements that the King went out stag-hunting in his *calèche*, and



that the Duke of Orleans had made certain changes in his household! How the orthodox illustrated their sincerity is thus whimsically told, in addition to a notice of the death of the Count d'Olonne. His wife and Madame de la Ferte were sisters.—

—widowed and aged, they withdrew, passionately in love with a world which abandoned them. They wished to be devout, and, affected by a sermon which they heard on Ash Wednesday, on the subjects of fasting and penitence, they were discussing the imperativeness and the difficulty of the question, when Madame d'Olonne, who was eccentrically avaricious, discovered a wonderful expedient. 'Sister,' said she, 'do you know what we will do? Let us make our servants fast.'"

This reminds us (it is Beckford's story) of the sick lady who was ordered to take certain medicines and drink asses' milk. The invalid was not found strong enough to follow the first portion of the remedy, "and so,"—as the original narrator says,—"and so, they physicked the ass."

It will be remembered how severely Genoa suffered by the assaults made on it at the command of Louis, and how that monarch refused to grant terms until the Doge himself repaired to Versailles to ask pardon. That official was so delighted, however, with his reception by the monarch, that, as Dangeau tells us, he declared aloud that "the civilities of the King of France had caused him to entirely forget the disasters and disgraces of his own country!" We know of no parallel to this speech, except in the record made by Lieut. Royer in the journal of his passage through Russia, wherein he expresses his "satisfaction" at being permitted, when at the Opera at Odessa, to use the identical "glass" through which Osten-Sacken had contemplated the destruction of the Lientenant's own ship,—the unfortunate Tiger.

It is a characteristic of Dangeau's book that all the royal personages whose doings are recorded in it, and whom the author himself deemed to be only a little lower than divinity, appear very commonplace mortals. There is not a trait of real generosity recorded of them throughout the entire volume. They had low inclinations, and yet very lofty pretensions; called Corneille "*le bonhomme Corneille*," as Dangeau himself does, and he, like his masters, speaks of the people of Paris by the term "*canaille de Paris*." He means nothing particularly offensive; and takes it for granted that the King is a great king, and that the people of Paris are of course *canaille*. At the palace of that monarch, that same *canaille* have since knocked somewhat roughly. Through its gates the *canaille* poured that "deluge" which Madame de Pompadour gaily said would come after her time; and even the cold, unimpassioned, sententious records of Dangeau serve for testimony against the mighty masqueraders whom he revered, and for justification of the impatient citizens whom he classes with the rascals, and so determinedly designates as *canaille*.

*Jerusalem Revisited.* By W. H. Bartlett. With Illustrations. Hall & Co.

THE recent death of Mr. Bartlett gives a melancholy interest to this, his posthumous work. Death is terrible to the grey-headed:—it is still more terrible when it comes to destroy the aspirations, to still the cunning hand, and to dim the keen and loving eye of one in the flower of his age and the full vigour of his intellect.

The present book—a beautiful monument for a lover of Art—originated in the success of Mr. Bartlett's first work, published in 1844. Although inexperienced in composition, and hasty and superficial in his review of the sacred city,

he achieved a comparative triumph,—and determined to revisit Zion's "flowery brooks," commencing a new volume, and not re-editing the old, as he had at first intended. To use his own words,—

"But other views concurred in inspiring the writer with a wish to revisit the scene of his labours. In the first place, much has been since written on the subject, and many novel and curious theories put forth, which rendered him desirous of going over the ground again with a fresh eye. Secondly, since the establishment of the Anglican bishopric, much improvement, it was said, had taken place in the condition of the city. New schools, hospitals, and other institutions had been founded, not only by the Protestants, but the other religious bodies. The place had received a great impulse for improvement, and further and important changes were anticipated. To obtain, as well as to communicate, some idea of this new state of things, also contributed to render a second visit desirable."

In the present work, we have twenty-two engravings on steel, including sketches of Mount Zion, the Via Dolorosa, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Pool of Bethesda, the Valley of Jehoshaphat, the Pool of the Virgin, Aceldama, the Damascus and Jaffa Gates, besides numerous woodcuts, as free and spirited as the steel engravings are rich, delicate, and minute. We have seldom seen anything to equal the loving elaboration expended upon these plates by Messrs. Cousins, Willmore, and Brandard. Every line is sharp and brilliant, every speck on stone or clod so broad and true, and the atmosphere of the whole is so Eastern and transparent, that in some respects they seem to reach even Mr. Roberts's lithographs.

Mr. Bartlett could write, too, vividly and picturesquely. One of the best of Mr. Bartlett's verbal landscapes is the view from the Mount of Olives, taken from a Saracenic tower.

The Jews he describes as dwelling in dark, vaulted caves—beggars in the City of David; the roofs dripping above, the earth-floor humid below, and often with no door or window to keep out the wind and rain. In these dismal homes, God's chosen people pore over the prophecies and listen for the voice of the coming Messiah.—

"The aged Hebrew pilgrim [says the author], arriving weary and destitute at the goal of his earthly wanderings, distinguishes not between the domes of the Holy Sepulchre and those of the Mohammedan mosques. To him the Gothic architecture of the English church and the glistening front of the Armenian patriarchate are alike strongholds of the Goyim (Gentiles); and whether Christian bells waft their magician sounds over the crowded dwellings of Zion, or the Muezzins 'cry aloud' from the minaret, as did the prophets of Baal in olden time, his hope deferred, he exclaims, 'Lord, how long?' The fashionable traveller, on the other hand, satiate with the charms of Italy, weary of the Alps and the Black Forest, seeks Oriental excitement and western civilization on the banks of the Nile or the desolate hills of Judea, and laments his disappointment that there are no trees or water in Jerusalem, while the hotels are very inferior. He rails at the fanaticism which excludes him from the only pretty spot (the mosque inclosure), and boasts, that two days 'have done the Mount of Olives, the Wailing Place, Bethlehem, the Greek Fire, and all that.' Such persons leave the Holy City without a suspicion of the earnest men and women who have here found a home and heart-stirring employment, where vacancy and ennui enter not. But there are those, and they may be numbered by thousands, who reverently approach the sacred wall of Jerusalem in order to worship at the Holy Tomb,—whose steadfast gaze is fixed upon the cupolas of the Church of the Resurrection, within whose precincts they intend to pass most of the time allotted for their sojourn in Jerusalem. Of the city they know nothing, and learn nothing but what may be seen in the convent where they sleep at night, and

in the streets through which they must daily pass to and from the church."

Mr. Bartlett took much pains in his adjudications on the disputes of Eastern travellers as to the sites of sacred spots. His remarks are clear and judicious, but not exhaustive of the subject.

*Traditions and Superstitions of the New Zealanders; with Illustrations of their Manners and Customs.* By Edward Shortland, M.A. Longman & Co.

WHILE engaged as a political agent, or "Protector of the Aborigines" in New Zealand, Mr. Shortland collected the legends and beliefs of that country. These traditions, he thinks, are like chronicles in a dead language,—and he who finds a key to the cipher may illuminate one of the most obscure and curious passages in the history of our race. How did that group, lying alone in a wide sea, become peopled? Mr. Shortland puts faith in a period—not very remote—when families from the East, each in a little ark, sought a new Ararat beyond the Pacific Ocean, and fled from wars and feuds on the Continent to peace in the distant islands. He remarks, with truth, that where missionaries have been long established their teachings are often grafted on the primitive legendary stem, so that it is impossible to separate indigenous ideas from those which have been imported. Such a process, originating in the zeal of the Jesuits, moulded into new shapes the fancies of simple men in the Moluccas and in the interior provinces of China; and in New Zealand itself, some of the tribes have received Christianity, not in place of their old creeds, but as an addition to them. It was, therefore, advantageous to our "Protector of the Aborigines" that he lived where foreign influence had made little or no impression on the native mind; since he was thus enabled to study manners and superstitions as they existed in their early, and, probably, in their original, state.

His hypothesis coincides with that of several writers, who have assumed that New Zealand was colonized by the Brown race of the Indian Archipelago, which had received its colonization from the Indian Continent. The language, traditions and physical characteristics of the people are examined to elicit evidence in behalf of this theory,—and the result appears not unfavourable. Their oral traditions concur in representing that the fathers of their tribes came from a land, which they name Hawaiki, lying far to the north-east. A few canoes brought the original colonists, who found the island uninhabited, and gave the names that now belong to bays, plains and peaks, from one end of the group to the other. Mr. Shortland argues plausibly, tracing paths over "the mountain wave," and widening the basis of his opinion, from circumstances connected with the natural history and social customs of the island race. What he chiefly considers it important to lay down is, that New Zealand was peopled about 500 years ago, and that Hawaiki means Hawaii, in the Sandwich group. Here is a difficulty. Between New Zealand and Polynesia, between Polynesia and the Malay coast, there are great gulfs fixed. An ocean, famous for its rolling billows, must have been crossed in frail canoes. Is this possible? Mr. Shortland affirms that it is. Ellis mentions instances in which the light canoes of the Sandwich fishers have voyaged 600 miles. We know that the Indian skiffs penetrate as far as the deep gulfs of Australia; and, if New Zealand was colonized at all, it must have been from a distance, across the water, of at least 1,000 miles. Besides, travellers who

have noticed the maritime enterprise of savages are aware that a canoe, unlike a boat, is most safe when kept in the trough of the sea. We have here an incident narrated to show that one of these barbarian galleys has survived a tempest:—

"One afternoon in the month of June, 1844, while I was at Tauranga, a storm from the north-east came on suddenly, and soon increased to a violence I had seldom known equalled. About nightfall, when the gale was at its height, I was startled at hearing the shouts and exclamations of many voices uniting with the roaring of the wind. What was my surprise to learn that a canoe had just arrived from Opotiki, a place distant about sixty miles to the eastward, and that the noise proceeded from the friends and relations of the crew, who were naturally transported with joy at their safety. The event appeared to me so marvellous, that I went early the next morning to see the canoe and its crew, to be the better assured of the fact. The canoe I found hauled up on the beach as far as highwater mark, with the cargo, consisting of baskets of *kumara* and potatoe, still on board. It measured about forty feet in length, with an extreme width and depth of about five feet. The hull or lower part was formed from the trunks of two trees, dovetailed together after the peculiar method of the country, which consults strength more than uniformity of shape. And above this was fastened a topside or gunwale of the usual width of about ten or twelve inches. There was no protection against the break of the sea, except that offered by a sort of deck, constructed of *rumpo* or flag, by which the bow was covered in a temporary manner for a few feet—a safeguard generally adopted when making coasting voyages of any length. The crew, nine fine able-bodied fellows, were seated on the ground, with a numerous crowd around them, listening to their account of the near escapes they had had on their voyage. They left Opotiki in the forenoon, with every indication of fine weather; but by the time they arrived off Maketu, the gale had become violent, and, unfortunately, the people of that place being at deadly feud with them, they could not take refuge there. Their only hope of safety was, therefore, in reaching Tauranga, then sixteen miles distant. In this they succeeded; and arriving off the mouth of the harbour took in the sail, and tried to find shelter under the lee of a rocky island; for the danger they most dreaded—the broken water or tide-rip at the entrance of the harbour—was still to be passed. Keeping the canoe as close as possible to the island by means of their paddles, they refreshed themselves with the remains of some cooked provisions, asking counsel of each other what they should do; for their position was very insecure, as it required their constant exertions and vigilance to prevent the canoe being dashed on the rocks, or overwhelmed by the waves. After a short consultation, it was resolved to make an effort to cross the mouth of the harbour at once, while they had strength; and though the canoe was nearly swamped in the attempt, it brought them and their cargo safely to land."

The volume contains numerous illustrations of manners and character, designed to prove an identity between the three nations of New Zealand, Polynesia, and the Asiatic Archipelago. One of the native legends we shall quote, for the sake of its simplicity, as well as for its resemblance to stories which may be found in the romantic literature of the East and of the North, as well as among the tribes of the Southern isles. In the days when beings superior to our mortal race inhabited this earth, there were three brothers, of whom the two elder persecuted the youngest. The youngest, like Cinderella—his sister in fable—was protected by Fortune.—

"Some way off from the habitation of the three Maui lived an old woman called Hine-nui-a-te-po (Great-daughter-of-the-night). She had the reputation of being a very terrible person, and no one ventured to meddle with her property. Little Maui, however, determined to go and visit her country to see whether he could find anything good there. So coming near the place where Hine-nui lived, he

seated himself on a hill overlooking her garden, and began to play a tune on his flute. As soon as Hine-nui heard the sound of the flute, she sent out some of her slaves to watch and see who was coming. But before they went, she gave them this injunction, 'If the man comes down the hill walking upright on his legs, catch him, for he is a thief: but if he comes walking on his hands and feet, having his belly and face downwards, then know he is an *Atua*, and be sure not to meddle with him.' Little Maui heard all she said, and, of course, came down the hill on his hands and feet, and as the slaves never meddled with him, supposing him to be an *Atua*, he crept into the old lady's *kumara* store, and after eating as much as he could, carried off a basket full. The next day his brothers sat together eating their morning meal, and every now and then threw a bit to little Maui, who sat as usual by himself at a distance from them. Instead of picking up these morsels, however, he pulled out from under his cloak a *kumara*, and ate it. At last the elder Maui, seeing all the scraps thrown to his brother still lying untouched, asked little Maui what he was eating. 'Excellent food, let me tell you,' said little Maui, throwing a handful towards his two brothers. The elder Maui was much pleased with the taste and size of the *kumara*, and wished to know where some more of them were to be obtained. Little Maui then told how he had stolen the *kumara* from the store of Hine-nui-a-te-po. But instead of repeating correctly the command which the old woman had given her slaves when she sent them to watch in the garden, he made her say, 'If the man comes down the hill on his hands and legs catch him, for he is a thief: but if he comes walking upright on his legs leave him alone, for he is an *Atua*.' Maui-mua was so much pleased with the adventure of his younger brother, that he resolved to set off the same evening, and steal some *kumara* in the same way. So when it began to grow dusk he started, little Maui calling to him as he was going, and bidding him be sure remember correctly the command given to her slaves by Hine-nui-a-te-po."

—Of course, when this cruel brother began to play his flute the old woman saw him, and, as he knew not how to deceive her, she squeezed him to death.

To realize a knowledge of these superstitions as they now exist, Mr. Shortland went with a New Zealander to a hut inhabited by an old woman celebrated for her intercourse with spirits. This Pythoness, after smoking a short black pipe,—

"removed all the blazing sticks from the fire, so as to obscure the light partially, and then sat quite still. The two slave women, who up to this time had gone on with their work, now ceased to ply their fingers, laid their baskets down quietly, and also sat still without speaking. For a while we all observed a complete silence; but no strange sound was heard. At length, Tuakaraina began to show symptoms of impatience. \* \* \* He quitted his seat by me, and took the opposite side of the fire, near the old lady; where he stretched himself at full length, with his face to the ground, and called on the *Atua* by name. 'Why are you so long in coming?' he shouted angrily. 'Are you at Waikato, or where else at a distance, that you come not quickly?' The flame of the fire had by this time gone out, and the embers alone gave a dim light. It was, however, sufficient to enable me to distinguish the persons in the hut. They all sat still except Tuakaraina, who, rolling himself on his belly, ceased not to call on his gods with great energy. The sight was strange and unexpected, and, at the moment, made a great impression on me. In spite of my better judgment, involuntary fancies would intrude on my imagination. Was it only a mere juggler I was about to witness? Might there not be more things in heaven and earth than were dreamt of in man's philosophy? These speculations were suddenly interrupted by a sound as if something heavy had fallen on the roof of the hut; and then a rustling noise, just as might be made by a rat, crept along the thatch till it stopped just over our heads. The old woman covered her head and face in her blanket, and beat herself up nearly double, her head resting on her knees. And immediately from the spot where the rustling noise had

ceased issued sounds imitative of a voice, but whistled instead of being articulated in ordinary tones."

The old lady was detected practising a sort of ventriloquism, by uttering a squeak, which seemed to come from a lizard on the roof. But no mystery of Egypt could have been more solemnly enacted.

We like Mr. Shortland's way of stating the results of his observations and inquiry. When he narrates, he is lively,—when he speculates, he is neither heavy nor lengthy,—and when he affirms, it is in a style quite distinct from dogmatism. With much that is new, therefore, his volume contains much that is agreeable. It is pleasant, sensible, and interesting.

*Glossary of Northamptonshire Words and Phrases, with Examples of their Colloquial Use, and Illustrations from various Authors; to which are added, the Customs of the County.* By Anne Elizabeth Baker. 2 vols. J. R. Smith.

ALL compilers of works on local language are liable to fall into the error of imagining that the words or phrases they profess to illustrate belong only to a particular district, when, in fact, many of them are common to the whole kingdom. Such is the case with Miss Baker, who seems to have so long resided in Northamptonshire that she is hardly aware that hundreds of the terms she introduces into her two volumes (some of which she explains at large) are well understood and in constant use by the inhabitants of every county in England. We are thankful, as we ought to be, for the manner in which she has preserved and elucidated the language of the peasantry around her:—so far she has done service to etymology, for we are thereby made acquainted with various terms of ancient origin and modern application; but according to the extensive plan on which she has proceeded, there seems no reason why she should have excluded any portion of our national vocabulary, and in not a few places she has laid such authorities as Johnson, Nares, Richardson, Todd, and Jamieson under heavy contribution; while in others she has unjustly blamed them for omitting words, or senses of words, which she has supplied. An obvious instance occurs in her second volume, p. 73, where, speaking of the *offices* of a house, she complains that "this very common word appears to have escaped our lexicographers." If she had referred only to Todd's Johnson, she would have seen it even in the first notoriously imperfect edition. If it be not, as Miss Baker especially states, in Nares, it is because the very commonness of the term—the constant employment of it by man, woman, and child—excluded it from his Dictionary, which applies only to obsolete and archaic terms. Again, why was it necessary for her to repeat much of what she met with in Grose, Moor, Forby, Brockett, Holloway, and other provincial Glossarists? For instance, under "Long-settle," she quotes many who have explained it, and yet, under "Settle," without the prefix "long," she tells us that it is "an archaism since the time of Wicliffe." This surely must have been an oversight, for there is no frequenter of a public-house, in London or the country, who could not have at once told her the meaning of the word.

Matter of this kind has vastly swelled Miss Baker's comparatively small stock of real Northamptonshire words; and if she had restricted herself to what her title-page promises, instead of two volumes she might have satisfied her subscribers by half a volume—that is to say, 200 pages would have contained nearly all that is new in her 800 pages. We will give one or two examples to show how much space has been uselessly employed. Did the exclamation

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"Fiddle-de-dee," in these times, require any special note? Yet we have it in due form, as well as "Fiddle-stick" and "Fiddle-sticks-end"; only, as to "Fiddle-de-dee," we learn that it is "nearly synonymous with the preceding word,"—which preceding word is "Fiddle," on which Miss Baker truly observes, that "to play second fiddle is to take an inferior or secondary position in any undertaking." Here, again, there must have been some mistake, for what relation has playing second fiddle to "fiddle-de-dee"? If, indeed, "fiddle-sticks-end" had preceded "fiddle-de-dee," we might have understood what was intended; but "fiddle-sticks-end" comes on the subsequent page, and "fiddle-de-dee" is thus unfortunately left without elucidation. The real explanation of "fiddle-de-dee" must have been accidentally omitted; and if it were anything like that given to "fiddle-sticks-end," its absence is greatly to be regretted; for regarding the latter, we are informed by the glossarist, in her own person, that she "recollects an old woman who, in former electioneering times, used to head the processions of her party at the close of each day's poll, playing upon the poker and tongs, repeating 'fiddle-sticks-end, shittle-come-poo.'" It would have been a loss to philology not to have preserved this anecdote of the old woman and her fiddle-sticks-end.

We doubt if our readers ever before heard of this musical dame; but with another old woman they must have been familiarly acquainted: she flourishes in Miss Baker's second volume under the word "Oven,"—a term, by the way, not peculiar to Northamptonshire, but in pretty constant use throughout the empire, and therefore not requiring particular illustration. However, there is a proverb which could be introduced under it, which we meet with in the work in our hands in these words:—"The old woman would never have looked in the oven for her daughter, if she had not been there herself." Miss Baker adds, that "this proverb is given in Ray, and is still in common use":—if so, why insert it here? The same question may be asked with respect to words on nearly every page. What is learned under "Smuts," when we are told that they are "small particles of soot which are dispersed from a chimney,"—a very narrow and inaccurate definition? In the same way "Moo" is "the plaintive cry of a cow" in all parts of the world as well as in Northamptonshire,—if it were necessary to state either the one fact or the other.

We venture to think that another class of words might have been excluded without material disadvantage; we allude to those which are mere corruptions from ignorance and mispronunciation. Why need we be instructed that *backerd* among the clowns of Northamptonshire means "backward"; that *crettur* is their mode of pronouncing "creature"; that *shaffe* with them is the same as our "shuffle"; or that *norating* is to be understood "narrating"? If we are to have *backy* for "tobacco," as Miss Baker thinks it proper to state, why are we not to have *taters* for "potatoes," as Miss Baker omits to mention? Vulgar forms of this kind—and they are innumerable—do not belong to any particular division, but are common to our whole island; and we wonder that the compiler of the work in our hands was not aware of it, and did not on this account, if on no other, avoid them. On p. 15 of her first volume there is a proof how she has been led away from the clear and simple explanation of a word by the circumstance that some provincial dictionary-makers have bestowed upon it a good deal of vain learning, by supposing it to be derived from the Anglo-Saxon: "hang-nail" is not so called because it is compounded of the Anglo-Saxon *ange* and *nail*, but merely be-

cause it is a small piece of skin which hangs to the finger-nail; yet Miss Baker introduces, in reference to it, a dissertation in which she cites Palsgrave, Pegge, Grose, Lye, Boucher, Wilbraham, &c., in order to prove to us that the true spelling is *ang-nail*, when in truth the difficulty, if any, has been produced by the omission of the aspirate. In the same way, why are we to look for learned etymologies for *trivet*, and why is Todd to be contradicted, when the undeniable fact is, that *trivet* is corrupted from "tri-foot," because of old it was made with three legs?

Miss Baker has a few notes on Shakspeare, derived from her acquaintance with the dialect of Northamptonshire and the adjoining county, which may be useful; but in one or two places she is unfortunate, apparently from a deficiency of knowledge in natural history: she ought to have been aware that *palm*, such as decorates our churches on Palm Sundays, never grows to the size of a tree; and that the *paigle* is a totally distinct plant from the cowslip. Her want of information on the expression "turning Turk" is excusable.

One of the best portions of Miss Baker's production relates to the local peculiarities and customs of Northamptonshire: in the illustration of these she sometimes gives us useful information, and so far we have no reason whatever to find fault with her labours. She thus describes "Valentine" in her own vicinity:—"Children going from house to house, the morning of St. Valentine's day, soliciting small gratuities. The children of the villages go in parties, sometimes in considerable numbers, repeating at each house one or other of the following salutations, which vary in different districts:—

Good morrow, Valentine!  
First 'tis you, and then 'tis mine,  
So please give me a valentine.  
Morrow, morrow, Valentine!  
First 'tis you, and then 'tis mine,  
So please to give me a valentine.  
Holly and ivy tickle my toe,  
Give me red apple and let me go.  
Good morrow, Valentine!  
Paraley grows by savoury,  
Savoury grows by thyme,  
A new pair of gloves on Easter-day,  
Good morrow, Valentine!

The custom of making presents of gloves at Easter appears to be of long standing, as it is noticed in Bishop Hall's *Satires*, 1598. It was formerly customary for young people to 'catch' their parents and each other on their first meeting on St. Valentine's morning. 'Catching' was no more than the exclamation, 'Good morrow, Valentine!' and they who could repeat this before they were spoken to, were entitled to a small present from their parents or the elderly persons of the family; consequently, there was great eagerness to rise early, and much good-natured strife and merriment on the occasion. In Peterborough and in some of the villages in the northern part of the county sweet plum-buns were formerly, and I believe are still, made, called *Valentine* buns; and these buns, I am told, are in some villages given by godfathers and godmothers to their godchildren on the Sunday preceding and the Sunday following St. Valentine's day. St. Valentine is supposed amongst the rural population to influence the weather, as appears by the old saw:—

In *Valentine*, March lays her line."

We are able to bestow some praise on Miss Baker's work. We have had the less scruple in marking defects, because they can have little or no effect on the sale, for the authoress is supported by a goodly list of subscribers.

*Proverbial Philosophy.* By Martin F. Tupper. Eighteenth Edition. Hatchard.

SOME sixteen years ago, when Mr. Tupper first took it on himself to set up as the Solomon of the age, we expressed our doubt of his capacity to sustain the part, and dismissed him in a brief paragraph as a writer not claiming any particular

notice at our hands. 'Proverbial Philosophy,' we observed "is the production of a benevolent enthusiast, whose motives are entitled to respect." We expressed a fear that it was a book not likely "to please beyond the circle of a few minds as eccentric as the author's own." During the interval, however—and contrary to our prediction—Mr. Tupper has flourished, after his fashion. His Babel Tower has reached its eighteenth story. The time, therefore, is come when we are called on to justify our first decision:—or to recall it. We have consequently re-read the work in its eighteenth edition. Where we have been in doubt, we have allowed Mr. Tupper all the benefit of that doubt. We have taken time to consider every point raised in his favour: and the result of consideration and reflection is, that our decision remains precisely as it was originally delivered. Sixteen years' possession has not made that which was borrowed Mr. Tupper's own. Success has not changed the tinsel into gold. That which was dreary in the first edition we still find dreary in the eighteenth edition. 'Proverbial Philosophy' is the outgrowth of a mind which is at once little and odd. Mr. Tupper is one of a class whom we may call the commonplace eccentrics. They write both in verse and prose, but it is in verse that their peculiarities are most fully exhibited. If they essayed to write as other people write, they would attract no notice;—by writing strangely, they obtain attention,—as a man whose head is fit for nothing else, may still collect a crowd by standing on it.

We are not much impressed by Mr. Tupper's eighteen editions. 'Jack Sheppard' has had more. The Laureate has not yet advanced beyond nine editions; and Mr. Browning, Mr. 'Festus' Bailey, and other writers of undoubted genius, are below the Laureate in popularity, if popularity be measured by sale. It has been so in all times, with rare exceptions. Cleveland's "Poems" ran through twelve editions while 'Paradise Lost' was struggling through three or four. The prose-writers who have the largest number of readers are not the men who represent in Europe the literature of England. Those who are the glory of our age—who keep alive our great traditions—are beaten in point of "editions" by scribblers who—had they flourished in Pope's time—would certainly not have escaped the 'Dunciad.' No man of judgment seriously speaks of Mr. Tupper except as a curiosity:—or affects to treat his 'Proverbial Philosophy' as a thing belonging to literature. Here, indeed, is his only value:—his sale gives us a kind of guide to the taste of certain classes of readers. There is a dog in the 'Wasps' of Aristophanes whose bark helps scholars to the pronunciation of a diphthong. Mr. Tupper may, in the same way, be of utility as an example of what can be received with relish by sections of the reading English. No one is misled into supposing that eighteen editions ought to settle the question of merit. The ear of Dionysius at Syracuse reverberates so loudly only because it is so long. The circulation of Mr. Catnach's ballads beats that of all the lyrists from Horace down to Keats.

We have no knowledge of Mr. Tupper, except what we have derived from his writings. We know not, as the Latin poet says, whether he is "a white or a black man,"—except, indeed, that from his portrait we presume that he is swarthy. We open his 'Proverbial Philosophy' with no more personal prejudice than we should feel in opening a curious pie; and it will appear from the contents, that if the reader do not like the pie it is rather the fault of the cook than that of the carver.

The book is opened. Its subject is philosophy

—the philosophy of many grave questions of doctrine and life. Here is a passage from its teaching about "Yesterday."

Yea, for standing unatoned, the soul is a bison on the prairie,  
Hunted by those trooping wolves, the many sinful yesterday;  
And it speedeth a terrified Deucalion, flinging back the pebble in his flight,  
The pebble that must add one more to those pursuing ghosts;  
O man, there is a storm behind should drive thy bark to heaven;  
The foe, the foe is on thy track, patient, certain, and avenging;  
Day by day, solemnly, and silently, followeth the fearful past.

—That men waste their lives, and that they pay a penalty for it, has been often said; but surely only Mr. Tupper would have said it again in such a style. The soul is a bison, chased by yesterdays, as wolves; then, it is a Deucalion, running and flinging pebbles, and the pebbles become ghosts, but whether of wolves or of something else is not clear. Then it is a bark, with a storm behind it, instead of a troop of wolves, and afterwards with a "foe" of a more terrible and spiritual kind. There is a fresh metamorphosis in every line; but why should Deucalion run like a bison?—Here again is "philosophy" on "Memory."

Memory may be but a power of coming to the treasury of Fact,  
A momentary self-desertion, an absence in spirit from the now,  
An actual coursing hither and thither, by the mind, slipped from its leash,  
A life, as in the mystery of dreams, spent within the limits of a moment.

—What does the reader learn from this?

Mr. Tupper on "Mystery" is as wise as might be expected. He tells us, that we can know nothing of subjects which are out of the reach of our capacity,—that we cannot understand the true relation between matter and mind,—that reason and instinct are not easily divided,—and so forth. "What then?" exclaims the impatient reader. "Nothing," adds the imperturbable "Philosopher." But, why write a "poem" to tell us what we knew before? "Why? Am I not Mr. Tupper, the proverbial philosopher?" Is that a reason? Asking questions is a game at which more than one can play. If the reader take to the line inquisitive, it will go well with him if Mr. Tupper do not reply by asking,—

Whence are we,—whither do we tend,—how do we feel, and reason?  
How strange a thing is man, a spirit saturating clay!  
When doth soul make embryos immortal,—how do they rank hereafter,  
And will the unconscious idiot be quenched in death as nothing?  
In essence immaterial, are those minds, as it were, thinking machines?  
For, to understand may but rightly be to use a mechanism all possess,  
So that in reading or hearing of another, a man shall seem unto himself  
To be recollecting images or arguments, native and congenial to his mind:  
And yet, what shall we say,—who can arede the riddle?  
The brain may be clockwork, and mind its spring, mechanism quickened by a spirit.

We might spend a day or two in asking such questions. How strange a thing is "Proverbial Philosophy"! Will the "unconscious idiot" of the above quotation have the goodness to interpret the following passage for us?—

For even as a limestone cliff is an aggregate of countless shells,  
One solid concrete of many, a mystery compact of mysteries,  
So God, cloudcapped in immensity, standeth the cohesion of all things,  
And secrets, sublimely indistinct, permeate that Universe, Himself.

—We regret to say that there is a great deal for the "unconscious idiot" to do in this line.

Mr. Tupper's favourite department seems to be the unintelligible. As we turn over the pages, we come to a section on "Things," commencing thus:—

Abstracted from all substance, and flying with the feathered flock of thoughts,

The idea of a thing hath the nature of its Soul, a separate seeming essence:—  
Intimately linked to the idea, suggesting many qualities. The name of a thing hath the nature of its Mind, an intellectual recorder:

And the matter of a thing, concrete, is a Body to the perfect creature,  
Compacted three in one, as all things else within the universe.

Nothing canst thou add to them, and nothing take away,  
For all have these proportions, good and ill in measure:  
The thought, the word, the form, combining in the Thing: All separate, yet harmonizing well, and mingled each with other.

One whole in several parts, yet each part spreading to a whole:  
The idea is a whole; and the meaning phrase that speaks ideas, a whole;  
And the matter, as ye see it, is a whole; the mystery of true tri-unity.

This nebulous nonsense may pass for fine writing with Mr. Tupper's admirers,—the "unconscious idiot" included. Some readers will ask—has it meaning? We dare say, indeed, that Mr. Tupper will consider such an objection as a compliment; for were he guilty of common sense, he possibly would lose his "reputation" and his followers.

We have defined Mr. Tupper as a commonplace eccentric. His poem has two characteristics,—intelligibility in the original parts—staleness in the others. We note two elements in the author—a wish to be Sibylline, and a literary faculty on the level of a penny-a-liner. This dualism meets us everywhere. Mr. Tupper pronounces on the Trinity,—and steals metaphors. He meddles with mysteries,—and propounds truisms. He describes Beauty,—and transcribes copy-book maxims.

We must have another glance at Mr. Tupper in his grand and Sibylline mood. Was ever poet so perched before?—

Then I sat on my granite throne under the burning sun,  
And the world lay smiling beneath me, but I was wrapt in flames;  
(And I hoped, in glimmering consciousness, that all this torture was a dream,—  
Yet life is oft so like a dream, we know not where we are.)  
And anon, as I sat scorching, the pyramid shuddered to its root,  
And I felt the quivering mass leap from its sand foundations:  
Awhile it tottered and tilted, as raised by invisible levers,—  
(And now my reason spake with me; I knew it was a dream:  
Yet I hushed that whisper into silence, for I hoped to learn of wisdom,  
By tracking up my transient thoughts, whereunto they might lead.)

Mr. Tupper on a granite throne, wrapt in flames, with a pyramid shuddering under him—(does he carry his poems in his pocket?)—here is a picture! But Mr. Tupper got, somehow, out of the difficulty, and lived to expound the mysteries of Nature, in the following fashion,—

And again, a mysterious Omniscience knoweth the spirits that are His,  
While the delicate tissues of Event are woven by the fingers of Ubiquity.  
Should Providence be taken by surprise from the possible  
Impinging of an accident,  
One fortuitous grain might dislocate the banded universe.

Yes, the very breath of man's life consisteth of a trinity of vapours,  
And the noonday light is a compound, the true shadow of Jehovah.

Mind is the perpetual motion; for it is a running stream  
From an unfathomable source, the depth of the divine Intelligence:  
And though it be stopped in its flowing, yet hath it a current within,  
The surface may sleep unruffled, but underneath are whirlpools of contention.

"Go to," Mr. Tupper,—to borrow your favourite exclamation,—is this wisdom?—is this philosophy? A wise man is slow to pronounce on these subjects at all: only a conceited man would venture to pronounce on them in such a style. Indeed, we regret to say that Mr. Tupper's presumption—we say it deliberately—has allowed him to use the form of Scriptural expression a great deal too frequently. Even in an age of parody, the Bible might be expected to escape the coarse hand of the literary forcerer.

No man with a particle of reverence in his soul would like to see the Songs and sayings of the King of Israel caricatured in our "Rejected Addresses,"—and on this point, we warn Mr. Tupper. A conscious wag may be offensive when touching revered themes; an unconscious wag must be so. A parrot with a nautical education is not the less disgusting to polite ears: it is rather more so,—because it does not understand the force and the offence of what it utters.

The literature of Proverbs is a curious subject. They are the current coin of popular wisdom. They represent the mother-wit of a country, as the Ballads do its popular sentiment. They smack of the soil, and they give a voice to the silent, deep, unconscious national character. How admirably has Cervantes availed himself of the proverbs of Spain, and Scott of those of Scotland!

From Cervantes and Scott to Mr. M. F. Tupper is "but a single step." A pleasant, shrewd homeliness, hearty and fresh, is the characteristic of the genuine proverb,—which is a more attractive thing than an epigram, and is the product of a better state of society. Erasmus observes that proverbs are traced in the best writers. But of all possible qualities, affectation and pretension, are those least compatible with a happy assumption of the proverbial form. A good proverb says what everybody is trying to say, precisely as everybody would like to say it:—Mr. Tupper says what nobody needs to hear, in a manner which nobody would use but Mr. Tupper. Our readers have heard him in his mysterious manner: here he is in his plainness.—

To-morrow is that lamp upon the marsh, which a traveller never reacheth!  
To-morrow, the rainbow's cup, coveted prize of ignorance;  
To-morrow, the shilling anchorage, dangerous trust of mariners;  
To-morrow, the wrecker's beacon, wily snare of the destroyer.

No more imagination is necessary for such comparisons as these, at our time of day, than for drawing up a bill of lading. Yet, pages upon pages of this book are taken up with "poetry" and "philosophy" precisely similar. The "poetry," indeed, is below the "philosophy,"—and contempt could say no worse of it.

That our readers may judge of the freshness of Mr. Tupper's illustrations, we subjoin a few taken at random.—

The alchymist laboureth in folly, but catcheth chance gleams of wisdom,  
And findeth out many inventions, though his crucible breed not gold.

And beware of seeming truths, that grow on the roots of error:  
For comely are the apples that spring from the Dead Sea's cursed shore,  
But within are they dust and ashes, and the hand that plucked them shall rue it.

Fear a nettle, and touch it tenderly, its poison shall burn thee to the shoulder;  
But grasp it with a bold hand, is it not a bundle of myrrh?

Though there be old familiar friends here—friends often found in more graceful company—we consult our reader's patience by only taking specimens in moderation. Let us pass from old friends to new, or what are called new.—

Pain is useful unto man, for it teacheth him to guard his life.

There is a limit to enjoyment, though the sources of wealth be boundless:  
And the choicest pleasures of life lie within the ring of moderation.

Pain addeth zest unto pleasure, and teacheth the luxury of health.

However, where the flattery is gross, a falsehood clear and fulsome;  
Crush the venomous toad, and spare not for a jewel in his head.



Tell the presumptuous in flattery, that, or ever he bespatter thee with praise,  
It might be well to stop and ask how little it were worth."

In this last we recognize a remark of Dr. Johnson's to a bore, which gives to the lines an unwanted point. This book of eighteen editions is as full of rag-ends of imagery and hackneyed remarks as ever was ship's hold of "remainder bisket."

Probably, Mr. Tupper's most distinguished talent is a certain judicious knowingness, which enables him to turn his labours to good pecuniary account. So, at least, it would appear from an advertisement at the end of this "eighteenth edition," where a French version of it is "highly recommended for schools in conjunction with the English edition." Mr. Tupper, in the frenzies of his inspiration, has still, it seems, an eye to the oven; and mounts the tripod to heave in coals at the kitchen-window! Free use is made of religious names to inspire the religious world with a notion that Mr. Tupper is a safe "poet" for schools! Of course, purchasers are at liberty to think as they please. Our business only is to establish that the sale of Mr. Tupper's book has given him no claim to a literary position; and that the advertisement of "eighteen" editions is no answer—and does not stand in bar—to the decision originally pronounced on "Proverbial Philosophy" by the *Athenæum*.

*Selections Grace and Gay, from Writings published and unpublished, by Thomas de Quincey: Miscellaneous.* Edinburgh, Hogg; London, Groombridge & Sons.

Mr. De Quincey's gravities and gaieties seem wearing themselves out. In the present volume, the gravities are pedantic and paradoxical, and the gaieties too shy to make any very effective appearance. 'Murder, considered as one of the Fine Arts,' dallies lightly over a hideous subject,—the 'Dialogues on Political Economy' discusses the question whether value depends on the quantity or the value of labour,—'The English Mail Coach' is a narrative in which a terrible incident lies buried under a mountain of words,—'War' is a diatribe, in which it is contended that there is a—

"twofold necessity for war:—1st, a physical necessity arising out of man's nature when combined with man's situation; 2dly, a moral necessity connected with benefits of compensation, such as continually lurk in evils acknowledged to be such—a necessity under which it becomes lawful to say, that war *ought* to exist as a balance to opposite tendencies of a still more evil character."

The presumed physical necessity is thought to be proved by the assertion that war "belongs to our human degradations"; which loose statement, if it mean anything at all, ought to lead to the inference that war is not a necessity, but an accident which will yield to advancing civilization. The arguments in support of the author's presumed moral necessity for war are chiefly remarkable as deriving, in the author's estimation, considerable support from a misquotation of Wordsworth. Mr. De Quincey delightedly avails himself of the authority of our great poet.—

"Most heartily, and with my profoundest sympathy, do I go along with Wordsworth in his grand lyrical proclamation of a truth not less divine than it is mysterious, not less triumphant than it is sorrowful,—viz., that amidst God's holiest instruments for the elevation of human nature, is 'mutual slaughter' amongst men, yea, that 'Carnage is God's daughter.'"

The truth "not less divine than mysterious" is altogether a mistake. Wordsworth did not write that "mutual slaughter" was amongst "God's holiest instruments for the elevation of human nature," as here quoted; nor that it was "God's most perfect instrument"—an absurdity

attributed to him at page 238. The lines, as published in Wordsworth's Works (edit. 1832, Vol. II. p. 309), stand thus.—

But thy most dreaded instrument,  
In working out a pure intent,  
Is Man—arrayed for mutual slaughter—  
Yea, Carnage is thy daughter!

The story of the flight of the Kalmuck Tartars from the Wolga into China, is the best paper in the book. Stimulated by Russian despotism and private intrigues, the warlike tribe of Kalmucks, numbering 600,000 souls, deserted their habitations by the side of the Wolga, and after a flight of 2,000 miles, reached the confines of China, and were permitted to form a settlement in the Celestial Empire. Pursued by Russian power throughout their weary course, harassed by the incessant attacks of an army of Bashkirs, and subjected to all the torments of hunger, thirst, and weariness, one-third of the number perished by the way. This incident occurred in the year 1711, and is commemorated by the Jesuit missionaries, from whom Mr. De Quincey's narrative is derived. His free and spirited style accords well with a subject of such romantic and sorrowful interest.

#### THE WAR.

Nothing could be better timed, just now, than a book which describes, without satire, calumny, or idealism, the actual state of manners in the Czar's empire. Such a book is *The Englishwoman in Russia: Impressions of the Russians at Home.* By a Lady, Ten Years Resident in that Country. (Murray.) The writer lived on terms of familiar intimacy with persons of different ranks in the capital and other cities, visited districts which travellers rarely see, and enjoyed a long experience of the interior social life of Russia. Her narrative, therefore, is a record of personal observations, composed with little, if any, artistic skill; but simple, lively, pleasant, and apparently truthful. It thus invites, and deserves, attention as a faithful report upon matters of no little interest at the present time. The character of the Russians as a people,—of their institutions and of their usages,—is not to be judged upon the testimony of flying tourists or deluded prisoners of war. It is fit that we should hear how society develops itself under the sceptre of the Romanoffs; but we must have better evidence than notes of summer trips, reminiscences of ball-rooms and theatres, or grateful acknowledgments by gentlemen who have been hustled in the ante-chambers of the Hermitage, or feasted at a governor's table.

The "Englishwoman in Russia" is not a libeller of the Russian people. She has much to say of their amiable qualities; she admires some of their customs, and has even a good word to bestow, by way of variation, on their Emperor. There her commendations cease. She cannot say that Russia is civilized, or prosperous, or happy. Its society is habitually gloomy, and during its festal seasons rejoices according to a ritual, orders its merriment by a programme, and enters into the Carnival like Tragedy in a comic mask. The region which contains these "barbares polii" is suitably dull; while dirt and splendour seem to be united in the interior of many a Russian mansion. Some of the "Englishwoman's" remarks on this point are too plainly expressed for quotation; but it were well if she had nothing worse to relate of the Emperor and his "children." One of her earliest glimpses of the social practices in vogue was at night, when she met an escort of Cossacks emerging from St. Petersburg with convicts for Siberia. There was a girl in the party, not seventeen years of age, who had been knouted, and was on her way to exile. Next day Nicholas formed the centre of a different

scene. The following sketch is free from exaggeration.

"Let us stand on one side, for the Emperor's sledge is coming; he is dressed in a grey military cloak and leather helmet ornamented with gold, precisely similar to that of any other officer. He has a fine face; his fair complexion and the general cast of his features show his German descent, but there is something peculiarly disagreeable about his eyes. His noble figure amply fills the sledge, which drives at a rapid rate past us. His Majesty looks much older than he did a few months ago; his hair is greyer and his shoulders rounder, yet he is a fine man still. He acknowledges the low bows of his people by a military salute, and leaves behind him as he advances many open mouths and wide-staring eyes among the sheepskin gentry, who perhaps have but just come into St. Petersburg with the 'winter-loups,' and can scarcely gaze their fill at the Czar, who, in their ignorance, they imagine a kind of God upon the earth. Look! the Emperor is giving a military salute to some ladies in a blue carriage, with two Cossacks in scarlet behind; it is Her Majesty the Empress and her daughter. The red uniform of the Cossacks is the distinctive mark between her livery and that of the wife of the heir-apparent, which is blue."

In one of the churches, the "Englishwoman" saw a crowd of people performing their devotions, with homage and offerings before a picture—not of the Virgin, not of a saint, but of the Emperor's daughter Alexandrine, who died several years ago. One of the methods by which they are tamed into such allegiance is thus noticed.—

"I remember, when in the province of Archangel, a deaf and dumb gentleman paid the town a visit; he was furnished with letters of introduction to some families there, and was well received at the governor's table; his agreeable manners and accomplishments, joined to his misfortune, made him a general favourite, and caused much interest; he could read French, German, Russian and Polish; was a connoisseur of Art, and showed us several pretty drawings of his own execution. Two or three times I was struck with an expression of more intelligence in his face than one would expect when any conversation was going on behind his back. It was not until three years after that I accidentally heard this very man spoken of in St. Petersburg. He was one of the government spies."

They who are servile to the powerful are usually supercilious and harsh to the weak.—

"When we were in the province of Vologda, I was one day walking alone in the garden; presently I heard a loud voice accompanied by a heavy thump on somebody's back frequently repeated. I stepped on one side, behind the thick shrubs, for I recognised the accents of the lady at whose house we were on a visit, and I thought she would rather not be seen just at that moment; but I could not resist gratifying my curiosity so far as to ascertain who the person was who had displeased her. I found that it was the gardener, a tall athletic young man, who, with a basket in his hands, was slowly walking down a path followed by his proprietress, who between every sentence struck him a smart blow on his back with her clenched fist. The man was going forward with a downcast look, like a great overgrown child, exclaiming at intervals, 'Iavnetie, matutchka, isvenete, veno vat' (Pardon, mother, pardon; I am guilty)."

Another mistress of a family, when a footman offended her, ordered him to stand in the corner until her guests rose from table; and this, we are told, is in accordance with the Russian plan of treating servants as if they were children. Of course, a nation so submissive is superstitious; but we find it hard to believe the next anecdote dropped amid dinner-talk.—

"Why does not Cleopatra Gregorovna eat anything?" asked I one day of an acquaintance at a dinner-party concerning a lady who sat opposite to me; "she looks wretchedly pale and thin."—"Oh, she cannot eat anything, she is condemned to a perpetual fast (i. e. to eat of lenten dishes only).—"Why so?"—"Because once, immediately after taking the sacrament, when she was a child about nine years old, she

had a violent attack of vomiting, and the priests ordered that she should fast for the rest of her life, as it could only be the Evil One, you know, that had possessed her and caused so great a misfortune."

Stories are told of the women of rank in St. Petersburg and the provinces, which induce us to sympathize less than we might otherwise be inclined to do, with the ladies who are taken, as the writer describes, to be whipped at Count Orloff's office. One of their peculiarities appears to be a habit of picking up little trifles at balls and conversaciones. The "English-woman" was insulted by the obvious reluctance of more than one of her hosts to leave her alone in rooms where articles of value were displayed.

We are willing to think, however, that these incidents are exceptional, though there is evident truth in the assertion here made that Russian society, of all ranks, is hollow, corrupt, and generally illiterate. Our authoress had opportunities for judging, since she observed the social aspects of the country, from the interior of a peasant's hovel to that of the Imperial saloon. She was present at the festivities in honour of the marriage of one of the Emperor's daughters, and was also familiar with the splendours of patrician mansions. Of these her account is interesting.—

"A nobleman's mansion contains as much beautiful furniture, as many articles of taste and luxury, as we could see anywhere else; the apartments are, generally speaking, much larger and loftier than with us; the whole of them are thrown open for the reception of guests and for the free circulation of the air; and a long suite of rooms thus disclosed has a very pretty perspective effect. The floors are not covered with carpets, but are composed of parquet, or inlaid oak; very often each room has a floor of a different design; the doors are shaded by rich portières, matching the window-curtains of each room; splendid chandeliers are everywhere suspended from above; many of the ceilings are richly painted in fresco, and a great deal of gilding adds to the effect; the chairs and sofas are covered with velvet or flowered silk of the most beautiful and delicate colours; marble statues and elegant vases are placed here and there, with objects of virtù, &c. The lady of the house has a boudoir which is often a complete gem; the splendid furniture, covered with light blue or rose-coloured satin or brocade; the inlaid floor partly covered with a Persian carpet; the tables in marqueterie, enamel, and ormolu, on which elegant trifles of the most exquisite taste are placed; fine and valuable pictures decorate the walls, which are probably covered with flowered silk or satin, instead of paper."

No dirt showed itself here. It is in the habitations of the less opulent, but no less indolent, nobles that silk couches are seen with the colour lost in stains, and linen utterly neglected by washers and bleachers. Ornaments in profusion adorn the houses of the rich, and the Emperor sets an example of barbaric decoration. His new palace at Moscow—

"is certainly magnificent in the interior, from the immensity and splendour of the suite of state apartments, each of which is designated after one of the orders of knighthood. I do not know which is the most imposing of these grand halls; each one is perfect in itself and of its kind, but the largest is that of St. George. The walls are completely covered with gilt arabesque carving, relieved at intervals by the insignia of the order; enormous chandeliers depend from the ceiling, and the floors are of inlaid oak. Even in the daytime the effect of so much gilding was dazzling, and when the lamps are lighted it must be almost overpowering. So much glitter and overcharged ornament do not accord with our English taste, accustomed as we are to Gothic architecture and buildings of simple grandeur; but the Russians are extremely fond of show and barbaric splendour, so that perhaps they look with equal *dégoût* on our public edifices."

In this palace is a vast jewel-room, in which are placed, as so many historical symbols, sixteen crowns, each on a separate pedestal. There

is the Imperial diadem of All the Russias—there is the crown of Siberia, with the crown of Astrakhan, and the crown of Poland—emblems and memorials of conquest. We may imagine the Czar coming to look upon those signs of power wrested from others and added to his own.

The "ten years' resident" was at St. Petersburg while Sir Charles Napier cruised about the Baltic. There was great terror among the inhabitants of the city, although there were perpetual rumours of defeats, inflicted by the Russians on the Allies. One day four English line-of-battle ships were reported to be sunk, and this was repeated until forty of our three-deckers, at least, were laid in *pace* at the bottom of the sea.

On the road to Warsaw the writer saw an army marching to the Danubian frontier. In the van of each regiment the men sang war hymns, in which the attributes of the Czar and of the Divinity were recounted; but the soldiers, when asked whither they were going, replied invariably "I do not know." This, however, may have been in obedience to orders. At St. Petersburg there was much talk of an expedition against the Tower of London, and the Czar's flag was, in many a fond anticipation, planted above its walls!

'The Englishwoman in Russia' is a book appropriate to the time, and full of reliable information. While we give it this praise, however, it is still our privilege to remark, that we trust what the author saw, not all that she heard,—which, indeed, she does not repeat without the necessary reservation.

A junior officer of the "Tiger" has come to the rescue of Lieut. Royer's reputation, and has published in *Odessa and its Inhabitants*, by an English Prisoner in Russia (Bosworth), a vindication of that gentleman's sentiments and a testimony to the correctness of his views. With the same want of sense and spirit as his predecessor, though not with the same *naïveté*, he writes an account of himself and the incidents of his short captivity. In this narrative, which is disfigured by boyish egotism and sentimentality, we find no new glimpses of Russian life or manners, but a constant straining on the author's part to make himself look like a hero. It, consequently, is deficient in the only merit which Lieut. Royer's book possessed,—that of obvious good faith; for there is a weak attempt to dress up incidents and persons in a frippery of romance, stolen from such novels as are popular with midshipmen of the "pathetic" school. The writer begins by assuring us that he has no desire to influence our political bias; but he misses no opportunity of expressing his contempt for the "foolish politics" of a "set of men" who display their "virulence in favour of" the Ottoman nation. A child at Constantinople exclaimed "Frangi Cookoo" to him,—whereupon he at once moralized and "grew indignant at the idea of propping up a government whose hatred was so inveterate." Our Midshipman should learn that the little vagrants of Turkey do not represent the Ottoman Porte, any more than boys in the streets of London represent the opinions of the English nation. However, he has been judicious in withholding his own name, though this reserve would have been more creditable to him had he refrained from mentioning with so much freedom the names of ladies—English and others—who behaved with kindness to him at Odessa. We shall presently see in what manner his communicative disposition is evinced; but we must premise that the sum of his ideas is, that the Russians are an amiable and libelled race,—that they are no less humane than other nations,—that the English press is "incongruous," ignorant and absurd,—and that he (the Mid-

shipman) is a being so attractive and able that when he opens his mouth no dog should bark.

A taste of the writer's quality is obtained as soon as he lands, in rosy Russian chains, at Odessa. Incredible is the magnanimity of the Czar and his vicerages:—

"Among other particular attentions paid to our comfort, was one which I hesitate to bring forward, as it seems extraordinary, and yet it is not the less true. The officers were not allowed to burn tallow, but were supplied with wax candles. Although somewhat astonished at this proceeding, I could not help thinking what our future treatment could be, if it was to be followed up on this scale."

What is a cannonade on the wrecks and drowning men in the Black Sea, or a *razzia* against the dying at Inkermann, when weighed against wax candles at Odessa? The Midshipman at once repudiates the idea that Baron Osten-Sacken acted a part before Lieut. Royer. What more disgusting conduct could be imagined, he asks, and what would be more easily detected?—

"As to the objection raised against General Osten-Sacken for denying the fact of our boat having been fired upon whilst bearing the flag of truce. Could he have done otherwise?"

Dissimulation, then, was out of the question on the part of this noble General, but prevarication he could not avoid. We pause, however, to protest against the gratuitous affirmation of the writer, that we, and our respectable contemporaries, would have affirmed the same falsehood under similar circumstances. Again, we beg leave to assure the Midshipman, and his friend the "worthy prelate," that we have no wish that prisoners of war in Russia should "exercise their inventive powers to please the *Athenæum*, *Examiner*, &c." In fact, the narrative would have pleased us better had it been less distorted by its writer's vain imagination. He met an English lady at the country seat of a Polish nobleman, and in this familiar style does he, anonymously, criticize her:—

"Miss Eliza Kingsford formed my *beau-ideal* of a governess: barely twenty-three, she looked older by many years—not from an assumption of a steady look, but from having begun life early. She had been an orphan from the age of three years, having had the misfortune to lose both her father and mother within six months of each other. Since that she had been completely dependent on a maiden aunt, whose means had but just sufficed to give her an education that rendered her competent to fill the post of governess."

His host had a story to tell him, which he repeats:—

"Premising that what may be true of a single individual should not attach itself to the character of *all* of his class, there being, doubtless, many honourable and high-spirited men among Russian officers. An officer had struck his superior, and mutual friends intervened to hush up the matter. It was agreed that the sum of fifty roubles should be paid by the offending party, together with some kind of verbal apology or excuse. When the parties met for this purpose, the young man produced two rouleaux of fifty roubles, which he laid on the table: then going up to his opponent, as if about to make the required apology, he said, 'Here, sir, are the fifty roubles for the blow I have already given you; and here, fifty more for this *one*,'—and suiting the action to the word, he gave him another box on the ear! The count added, that the aggrieved officer pocketed the money, and contented himself with grinning defiance."

Nevertheless, these gentlemen were so friendly in their department that he could not but admire them, their country and their Emperor. We meet him, with a group of British officers, in a curious position. He went continually to conversaciones and balls:—

"On returning from one of these parties, towards three o'clock in the morning, I recollect finding several of our own officers, who had been making



merry with some Russian officers, in another part of the city."

Mark the fraternal playfulness of these gentlemen who had been "making merry":—

"The English had the Russian helmets on their heads, and the Russians wore the naval gold-laced cap, which they would have, no doubt, been proud to keep. I mention this circumstance merely to show how little of the spirit of ill will was borne us by the Russians, whom our periodicals so unmercifully abuse."

From such puerilities are the inferences of this narrative drawn. But our Midshipman's self-complacency was the secret of his great content at Odessa. At a fishing party he was the sole cavalier of three ladies:—

"Our conversation was light and unrestrained; there was no attempt at showing what we knew to each other. Sometimes it was most trifling and innocent; at others, we talked of Europe, of England, of friends whom we portrayed to each other. We gave our opinion on politics, poetry, anything, everything, freely and unreservedly. This was truly 'the feast of reason and the flow of soul.' My young friend, Amy, listened attentively, but said little. Her cheek was flushed, and I could see that not a remark had been lost to her understanding."

On another occasion:—

"Towards the end of the evening I succeeded, at last, in persuading Miss Kingsford to sing. She had previously excused herself, and as she now rose to comply, her cheek was pale, and her voice trembled in the few words she addressed to me."

The liveliest passage, however, is the following:—

"I recollect there was one lady who was considered the belle of Odessa. She was much admired by everybody, and so much run after that I suspected she could not but be vain. I, therefore, treated her with respectful indifference. She must have been piqued at this."

The lady could not, indeed, endure to be left unnoticed by the Midshipman of the Tiger. The Mountain would not come to Mohammed, so Mohammed went to the Mountain. He would not ask her to dance, so she asked him, and he "had to throw down his hat, and start off in the waltz with her."

Have we valued this book at less than its worth?

As a companion to the Sketches of Jokai and the Tales of Eötvös, we have *Russian Life in the Interior; or, Experiences of a Sportsman*. By Ivan Tourghenieff, of Moscow. (Edinburgh, Black.)—Though not equal in its style or the interest of its contents to the first of the above-named productions, it is superior to the second. Ivan Tourghenieff, in fact, has acquired some reputation by this book, which has been translated into the French and German languages, and now from the French into the English. The "Experiences" consist of adventures among the wilds and villages of "old Russia,"—and these are rendered entertaining by accounts of primitive manners and modes of life. The author possesses considerable powers of description. He suggests a character well,—he describes a dialogue with neatness and vivacity,—and where he attempts to paint natural scenery, his words are really pictorial. This will be enough, we think, to send many readers to the volume; which is what it assumes to be, a representation of Russian manners in the interior, abounding in pleasant varieties and sketches from life. The author is "of Moscow," and has, consequently, nothing to say on vexed questions; but we do not regret the absence of polemics from such a miscellany. The "editing" has been carefully supervised by Mr. J. Meiklejohn.

The exciting events of the War have stimulated Mr. Trench, best known by his sacred commentaries, and by his treatise 'On the Study of Words,' to write *Alma, and other*

*Poems*. (Parker & Son.)—These are examples of correct poetical mechanism, with little force, though not without a certain flow and melody of versification. Three of them appeared in the *Times*,—and Lord Lyttelton has helped Mr. Trench with a Greek version of the lines on the 'Battle of the Alma.'

We fear that the author of *East and West: a Song of the War* (Bell) must be content with the praise that is due to good intention. He has not yet mastered the elementary difficulties of verse-making. Scarcely any of the lines here printed move in harmonious couplets, nor is the expression graceful.

Let the cowards linger o'er protocols and laws,—  
Needs no traitor's finger should stir in Europe's cause.  
leaves us to guess the meaning, though we do guess that it refers to Austria and Russia. There is less ambiguity, but not less inelegance, in the allusion to France and England

Breasting side by side the grisly fight,—  
Charging side by side the horrible height.  
—Even our poets *des circonstances* must obey the laws of language and rhythm.

Messrs. Colnaghi & Co. have issued in their series of pictorial illustrations of the War a large plate representing *The Combined Fleets of England, France, and Turkey attacking Sebastopol on the 19th of October*, drawn by Mr. O'Reilly, —a *Battle of the Alma*, taken, as it appears, from the heights to the right of the half-broken bridge, and giving a view of the scene of this great victory not hitherto, we think, made public; it is drawn by Major Adye, R.A., and is a very spirited drawing,—another *View of Sebastopol*, taken from the trenches before the town, and chiefly interesting as a memorial of the brave Lieut. Thorold,—and another plate illustrating *The Loss of the Tiger*, from the drawings of Lieut. M. B. Dunn, of H.M.S. the *Niger*.—We have also, from the same prolific press, a couple of plates on a single sheet, being No. 16 of Mr. Dolby's 'Sketches in the Baltic,' in further illustration of the capture of Bomarsund. One of these represents a party of Chasseurs de Vincennes advancing to the attack,—the other a pleasure party after the assault, where English sailors and French soldiers are refreshing themselves with a dance.

#### YEAR-BOOKS.

Mr. Gutch has brought out a new edition for the coming year of his very excellent *Pocket-Book*,—which, as usual, is crammed with scientific lore, useful tables, instructions in photography, and other matter interesting to the man of science and the occasional reader of scientific works.—Mr. Rees's *Improved Diary and Almanac* for 1855 reappears in its well-remembered shape, fitted for the pocket or the pocket-book, and recommended by its liberal allowance of blank space for notes of the day.—Messrs. Metcalf & Bingley have issued an *Alliance Perfumed Almanac*, in which the calendar breathes of the sweet South, and the cover tells of Araby the Blest.—The *Colonial Almanac* and the *War Almanac* are devoted to the illustration of special themes,—the first being full of useful statistics,—the second, of moving incidents by flood and field.—The *Manchester and Lancashire Almanac* offers to the banker or merchant of that city considerable information of interest to him, though it can scarcely claim an interest beyond the county.—The *Bolton Almanac* is another local year-book; having digests and other matter universally attractive, in addition to its purely local information.—The *Monthly Commercial Almanac* is an attempt to subdivide the ordinary merchants' year-book. Being only made up for January, it is able to give the mails and other intelligence at great length and very conspicuously.—The *Almanac of Freedom* has the portrait of Milton as frontispiece,—and its contents are devoted to various matters likely to interest the more zealous liberals, especially the young. Its calendar is composed of

the saints of freedom; each day being devoted to the great man born on it, where this is known,—where not, the day of death is selected. This is a good idea,—worthy of a more ample and catholic development. Some of the saints are ill chosen; the 1st of January is preposterously, as well as irreverently, assigned. Living men and women ought to have been rigorously excluded.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*The Literary Remains of the Rev. Thomas Price, Carnhuanawc, Vicar of Cwmdu, Breconshire, &c.* Vol. I. (Llandovery, Rees.)—We have waited for the second volume of this work, in obedience to the arrangement made by its Editors. In the second volume we are promised the life of Mr. Price; whereas a biography with letters and personal information would have been an acceptable preface to such matter as is republished in this first volume. Mr. Price was one of those devoted students whose learning is deprived of due fame by the limitations within which it is confined. Unpalatable as may be the feelings, or fancies, which we have expressed regarding the forms taken by Cambrian archæology, we might re-state them, when we consider how valuable the labours of so devoted a labourer as Mr. Price might have been, had he devoted them to any wider field of tillage and pasture, than to the grave-yard and the cromlech. There is a time to dream in every man's life, as well as a time to wake:—and whether sincere men, who would deserve well of their country, are now justified in dreaming all their lives may be doubted. It were idle, however, to preach that scholarship may have its responsibilities as well as grosser wealth, except to the finest and most unselfish spirits.—From the above, our readers may gather why, since the Life of the Rev. Mr. Price is delayed, we shall here do little more than recapitulate the contents of this volume of his collected miscellanies. Its first hundred pages are devoted to a 'Tour through Brittany,' which has already appeared in the *Cambrian Quarterly Magazine*. Into this Tour, we are informed, the matter of an antiquarian Prize Essay, brought forward at the Powys Eisteddfod in the autumn of the year 1824, was interwoven. For the general reader—even for accomplished tourists—this Tour will be found to be hopelessly heavy; though it is doubtless a storehouse of facts, comparisons, and coincidences, to be resorted to by future writers on the subject of the kindred betwixt Wales and Brittany, and the part taken by both countries in enriching the romantic literature of the world. This Tour is followed by another essay, 'On the Comparative Merits of the Remains of Ancient Literature in the Welsh, Irish, and Gaelic Languages,' which carried off the prize at the Abergavenny Eisteddfod in 1845;—by essays on 'The Influence which the Welsh Traditions have had on the Literature of Europe';—on 'The Language and Literature of Wales, from A.D. 1080 to 1294'; and on 'The Statuta Wallie, or the Statutes of Rhuddlan, by which Wales was annexed to England.' After the fashion of other conscientious literary men, Mr. Price had the habit of retouching and extending his scattered writings when republishing them. Thus his curious paper on 'The Geographical Progress of Empire and Civilization,' published in 1847 [*Athen.* No. 1042], had been already partly given to this journal [*Athen.* Nos. 894, 895]. This tract, we suppose, may be included in the volume to come. In the 'Life,' which we are expecting our readers may recollect, that Miss Jane Williams has partly promised to offer some evidence concerning the Campbell and Siddons matter, in correction of Mr. Patmore. By her promise, we are led to hope for a literary correspondence on topics more general than Cambrian exclusiveness and nationality. A portrait of Mr. Price, after a dim Talbotype, is given with this volume; and some sketches,—or rather call them scratches,—of scenery, of such inferior quality that we will not name the anastatic press which boasts to have issued them.

*Mirth and Metre*. By Two Merry Men—Frank Smedley and Edmund Yates. (Routledge & Co.)—When the 'Rejected Addresses' can be had for

a shilling, a book in the same style need have more than common merit to recommend it. Our "Two Merry Men" do not lack either humour or neatness; and as the German peasant-boy remarked when asked to repeat a certain prayer, that he had forgotten the words, indeed, but he could remember the tune, so it may be said of the authors of this imitative "Mirth and Metre." They are not quite masters, for instance, of Ingoldsby's method; but they have learnt the jingle, and make the same sound pleasantly enough. The imitation of "Evangeline," however, is a sorry failure. It has neither mirth nor metre in it.

**Political Sketches.** In Twelve Chapters. By Carl Retelag. (Theobald).—The writer of these Sketches was formerly the Professor of Philosophy at the University of Rostock. In April, 1852, public troubles drove him from his own country, and he sought refuge in England. The quiet life of a Yorkshire town has since enabled him to review the political aspects of the Continent, and to compare the state of Germany with that of Great Britain. His opinions are now given to us as he wrote them, in clear English, and we mean no slight praise when we say that these "twelve chapters" will materially serve to assist the historical student in judging of the condition and prospects of Europe. The flow and spread of civilization—the principles of empire—the influence of former periods—the sentiments stirring in the heart of the German race—the work of the Holy Alliance—the revolutionary commotions—the character and results of the Russian absolutism—the Protean shapes of diplomacy—and the chances of the war are discussed and illustrated with intelligence and enthusiasm. Herr Retelag believes that the Liberal statesmen of Europe have discovered the fallacy of their old idea, that the boundaries of states should not henceforward be disturbed,—and he hints that if a wise policy had been pursued six years ago, the Italians, Hungarians, Poles, and Germans would have achieved all that for which four armies are now burying the valleys of the Crimea under heaps of slaughter. He refrains from pushing his argument to its legitimate conclusion; but the inferences are obvious enough. A study of this little volume will be found useful by those who wish to comprehend the desires and opinions of the intellectual politicians of the German race.

**Sketches of the Lives and Judicial Services of the Chief Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States.** By G. Van Santvoord. (New York, Scribner; London, Low & Co.).—Mr. Santvoord has few anecdotes to tell, and is wanting in biographical art. His book is, therefore, uninteresting. Neither is it valuable as a history of the maxims and decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, for its contents are loose, discursive, and confused. We recognize throughout the presence of liberal sentiments and an enthusiastic admiration of judicial virtue; but these attributes of the writer do not atone for the marked deficiencies both of his plan and style. The subject, in our opinion, was capable of better treatment, because the line of American Chief Justices extends through periods of great historical interest, and has been connected with events at once important and romantic. Many of the cases brought for settlement into the Chief Court, especially during the earlier days of the Union, were of a singular character, and the peculiarities of American law are, in themselves, sufficiently curious. For instance, there is a remarkable case mentioned by Mr. Santvoord, in which it was ruled by Chief Justice Rutledge that calling a man a Mulatto is a slander *per se*, and actionable. The trial of Col. Burr, also, was one of the most extraordinary on record, though Mr. Santvoord confines himself to the forensic and judicial topics connected with it. Col. Burr, it will be remembered, dreamed of founding an empire for himself, and projected the conquest of Mexico. He was arrested on the Mississippi, and charged with treason. On this occasion the greatest lawyers of the States were engaged; and they contended, not only with distinguished skill, but with unmitigated asperity. One of the counsel for the defence said that his antagonists wished to hang the Colonel for their own gratification, and there certainly is a glimpse of savage feeling in the

expression of disappointment used by one of the advocates for the prosecution when remarking on the part taken by the Judge: "Marshall has stepped in between Burr and death." This was written by Wirt, who was famous in the American courts. Some one afterwards asked him, "Why did you not tell Judge Marshall that the people of America demanded a conviction?"—"Tell him that!" he answered; "I would as soon have gone to Herschel, and told him that the people of America insisted that the moon had horns, as a reason why he should draw her with them." There is a little of this amusing matter in Mr. Santvoord's book; but we have to search for it patiently, and there is too little ore in the earth to pay for our speculation.

**Lectures, in Connection with the Educational Exhibition of the Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, delivered at St. Martin's Hall.** (Routledge & Co.).—The subjects of these Lectures are various, and the treatment is equally diversified. Mr. Sopwith is declamatory on the unpromising topic—"Models and Diagrams,"—and Dean Mariot is exact and dry within his larger scope—"The Digestion of Knowledge." But in each of the dissertations there is an excellent purpose zealously kept in view,—and the result will probably be felt in an endeavour to quicken the body of professed educators and to heighten their conception of the tasks they undertake. The relations and the objects of science, the methods and the theories of instruction, with different collateral subjects, are dealt with in more or less of a practical style. We have been most interested, however, by Cardinal Wiseman's illustrations of his views on the teaching of the poor. To these a note has been prefixed, stating that "not a sentence, or part of a sentence, has been added or omitted, and not a substantial alteration has been made in a single word," since the Lectures were delivered,—and this note is designed to clear the Cardinal from an accusation that he had proposed a censorship, or some other interference with the liberty of the press. But, he allows that he cannot believe "that good is done by putting keen intellectual weapons into rude hands." Instead of ample and continuous histories, he would give to the poor historical "readings." He would tell them of science, without using technicalities. Such books of recreation as Gulliver and Crusoe he would not exclude, and biography he warmly recommends. As for poetry, it should, he thinks, be moulded especially to respond to the feelings and wants of the humble and laborious classes,—and in Art the same. Thus might a love of literature be kindled among the poor. This is all admirable in its design; but we fear that if a good book be, as Milton described it, the precious life-blood of a master spirit, it would not be possible to create Spanish distinctions—blue and black blood—a plebeian and a patrician order—in the Republic of Letters. At all events, if the minds of the people are to be furnished at all, it must be with the "keen intellectual weapons" to which, in their hands, the Cardinal has an objection.

**Tales of Flemish Life.** By Hendrik Conscience. (Edinburgh, Constable & Co.; London, Hamilton, Adams & Co.).—Considering the present state of the world of translators and of publishers, it is not safe to say more than that we do not recollect to have before met with these new Tales by M. Conscience. In cases like his, however, Memory is apt to be minute. M. Conscience has exhibited too much pleasant nationality to be confounded among those whose stories are forgotten as soon as read, and who may, therefore, be met with in a dozen translations and travesties without our being sure whether or not they are old acquaintances. He is a worthy member of that estimable guild of foreign novelists which includes Töpffer, Souvestre, Herr von Auerbach, Madame d'Arboville, and Mr. Hawthorne. The short national tale, however welcome to the reader, is not easy to write:—and Belgium is, just now, busier in producing good painters, sculptors, wood-carvers and executive musicians than authors:—so that not merely as being one of a select class, but also as standing alone among his countrymen, does M. Conscience

deserve to be rated highly. It may be wished that his Tales were less generally melancholy; but in these the Belgian novelist only shares the humour of those authors with whom we have classed him. Whence arises the tone of general depression that pervades so many popular tales of Continental life? With all the grey in our sky and fog in our atmosphere,—grievances as dear to foreigners who wish to say hard things of this island,—there is more vigour, humour and cheerfulness in our peasant tales of England, Scotland and Ireland,—nay, even in the pictures of life in our country-towns, stagnant as that is,—than we find in the literature originated by the enchanting scenery of the Black Forest and the Swiss lakes; or illustrating some small Belgian or old German town, with its minster towering, like a fairy palace, above the houses, and where the chimes from the belfry enliven the silence of the place and mix with the harsher sounds of traffic and intercourse, like aerial music belonging to an upper world. Let more profound speculators, however, explain the sombreness of tone to which we have alluded. Whether the reader be wise or foolish, he will be glad to receive these four new Tales by M. Conscience, in spite of their generally depressed tone and subdued colouring.—"The Recruit" is a story of homely love and woman's faith: telling how a peasant boy was drawn for a soldier, and how the peasant girl, to whom he had been betrothed, comforted all belonging to him after his departure;—how John was stricken with blindness soon after joining the army;—how Trion made a pilgrimage to join, cherish and nurse him;—and what came of this. Let this sort of adventure take the form of Madame Cottin's "Elizabeth" or of Scott's "Heart of Midlothian": it is one which is as sure to excite sympathy and interest as the story of the man on the desolate island perfected by Defoe, but which can still be told again and anew without offence.—Every one, too, will like "The Poor Nobleman" just as well as if, from the first, he was not satisfied that M. Conscience would not leave his nobleman poor at the end of the tale.

The old tunes are the best, the dance most light, To ancient measures on the floor goes round, says some rhymester:—and that familiar sorrow are almost as precious as familiar jokes, this volume bears sentimental witness.—The translation appears to have been executed with care:—at least, the English is flowing and correct.

**Manual of Civil Law, for the Use of Schools, and more especially of Candidates for the Civil Service; consisting of an Epitome, in English, of the Institutes of Justinian, carefully expurgated, with an Introductory Chapter.** By E. R. Humphreys, LL.D. (Longman & Co.).—As to the desirableness of including some knowledge of laws and constitutions in a course of education there can hardly be a difference of opinion; but whether a work of this nature is the most suitable for conveying it is another question. Dr. Humphreys advocates the study of the Roman Civil Law on the ground that it forms the basis of English, and still more of Scottish, jurisprudence. If, however, the object be to make the student acquainted with the laws of his country, it would seem to us preferable to go more directly to work, and put into his hands some adaptation of Blackstone. For understanding classical authors, it ought to be sufficient to consult editorial notes and classical dictionaries of antiquities. Waving this preliminary point, we have great pleasure in testifying to the practical judgment exhibited in the preparation of this manual, which, in a short compass, conveys a considerable amount of knowledge on the subject of which it treats, clearly and accurately expressed and well arranged, with questions for examination at the close of each section. The Introduction gives a very good account of the way in which the Civil Law grew up into the embodied form which it assumed under the efforts of Gregorius, Hermogenes, Theodosius the Second, and Justinian. There is also a plentiful share of historical information dispersed throughout the substance of the Manual, and an excellent glossary of Latin technical words and phrases at the end.

**A Memoir of Anna Maria Clarke, &c.** By her

Son, the ridge.)—by her of this taste in of some These —who on the Virtue extrem will ar long, be before the da tion to If th in Freu them. suitable Le Pag a collec Then roisin's tical au Hussen cather Gibbon conven the wi Glossol gnage Co.), w second Aue's lished called cieca. idiom; room Englis Amc The P Right cates i would Celatu of Loru —a Cy nal gl conjug weapo rective inside irritat soul h Rarely or suc —Mr. of his a note Furlon it?—i scribese "thro ite su hencoe self-ex First Impro spokem sion.— List of tions the A Ration portan will b The w be bu War! the Futur is futu many by Gib tices



Son, the Rev. Thomas Grey Clarke, M.A. (Woolridge).—That Mrs. Clarke was a devout woman, and that her memory is affectionately cherished by her family, are facts discernible in every page of this book. That her survivors have shown good taste in making so flattering a public exhibition of so much private virtue, is more questionable. These are days, we know, when every good deed—when every good thought, almost—must be aired on the house-top; when, under pretext of example, Virtue runs a cruel risk of being driven into the extremes of vanity. We know, too, that no protest will arrest the flow of indiscreet revelation. So long, however, as matter like this 'Memoir' comes before us, we must point out the indiscretion, and the damage which may be done by over-publication to the cause of modesty in religion.

If the English people do not become proficient in French, it cannot be for lack of books to teach them. We have before us no less than four—all suitable for beginners in the language. First comes *Le Page's French School*, Part IX. (Wilson), being a collection of easy conversational exercises, with a key under the title of *Le Petit Censeur* (Wilson). Then we have a second edition of *M. de Beauvoisin's French Verbs* (Wilson);—and *A New Practical and Easy Method of Learning French*, by E. Husson (Simpkin & Co.).—Those who like the catechetical system of instruction may find Mrs. Gibbon's *Simple Catechism of Geography* (Relfo) a convenient child's book.—Having already described the whimsical work of Dr. C. Kratzer, entitled *Glossology; being a Treatise on the Nature of Language and on the Language of Nature* (Trübner & Co.), we need only announce the appearance of a second edition.—An excellent abridgment of Dr. Aue's larger *German Grammar* has just been published in Messrs. Chambers's Educational Course, called *Elementary German Grammar; with Exercises*. The English of the exercises is in the purest idiom; we only regret the author could not find room for some German to be translated into English.

Among the miscellanies on our table, we have *The Public Pearl; or, Education, the People's Right and a Nation's Glory*, by Celatus,—who dedicates it to Lady John Russell. Her Ladyship would probably be glad to escape such eulogies. Celatus tells us about the "conubial happiness" of Lord John Russell,—calls his wife an "angel,"—a Cynthia, whose beauty moves amid "the supernal glory shed upon and shared by her attractive conjugal companion." But he is equally ready with weapons of offence, having a whole page of such invectives as "the scurvy of a man's soul,"—"the inside of a simpleton,"—"a smirking saint,"—"the irritation of a spiritual pimple,"—and "a rational soul having entered by mistake into a pig." Rarely have we seen so much nonsense in print, or such gross egotism so indecently undisguised.—Mr. Trevethan Spicer has printed a new edition of his *Philosophy of Education*,—and prefaced by a note of introduction from him, we have Miss Furlong's *New Movement in Education—What is it?*—in which a system of oral teaching is described. Miss Furlong tells us, that she has "thrown off" many "piles of MSS." on her favourite subject; and that she is "resolved to live henceforth to serve her generation."—In a more self-exalting spirit are the *Speeches delivered at the First Public Meeting of the City of London Mutual Improvement Society*. One of them was not spoken—but intended to be spoken—on the occasion.—The Society of Arts have distributed their *List of Lectures and their Subjects*, and of Institutions in Union with the Central Association at the Adelphi,—and the "London Confederation of Rational Reformers" have circulated *A Few Important Questions*, to which, we conceive, there will be still fewer responses at the present time. The writer asks, how many Crystal Palaces could be built with the money spent on the Russian War? He sees no reason why Russia should not rule the Turks.—On political topics, we have also *Our Future Parliaments*,—in which a plan of franchise is offered that is not likely to be understood by many readers.—*Brilbery; or, the Political Curse*, by Gibson Box, is a vigorous attack on the practices of corruption; and a sensible plea for the

ballot.—A discussion of a less popular nature is entered upon by an Undergraduate of Cambridge in *An Essay on Causality*,—on which he writes in a modest and rational tone.—*Pro and Con* goes to the other end of the scale. It refers to the familiar subject of beer and spirits, which are condemned as scourges of the earth, in that peculiarly complacent style usually adopted by our social secretaries. They talk of their "orators" as "eloquent and fascinating speakers,"—

On whose lips the mystic bee drops the honey of persuasion.—In the department of humbler didactics, we find *Domestic Cookery: a Household Handbook*,—and *Instructions for Potichomanie; or, the Art of Decorating Glass so as to give it the appearance of Painted Porcelain*.—The Senior Curate of St. Luke's has published *The Cholera in Berwick Street*,—a vivid and terrible picture of the sudden inroad of death in that locality. He has added some appropriate suggestions.

#### MEDICAL BOOKS.

*A Treatise on Diseases of the Lungs*. By A. W. Clarke, M.D. (Highley).—Few works, even on the diseases "that flesh is heir to," are so painful to read as books on consumption—most painful when, as in Dr. Clarke's case, they are ably written. Indeed, looking at the whole literature of medicine, we doubt if any subject has been more ably treated than diseases of the lungs. But we get no further. The Registrars' Reports tell the same tale of yearly loss; and the promise of a remedy held out so often by medical writers is so long delayed as to make the heart sick with excitement and baffled hope.

*Sudden Death*. By A. B. Granville, M.D. (Churchill).—Who that has read the author's 'St. Petersburg,' 'Spas of Germany,' or 'Spas of England' will doubt that so painful a subject as sudden death in his hands would assume a popular and even interesting character. We opened the book, however, expecting something more especially medical than the above work,—but we have been drawn on, and must confess that Dr. Granville has treated his subject in the fearful manner which its name would suggest. He appears most laboriously to have investigated the Registrar-General's documents, and to have proved therefrom that sudden death is on the increase. He gives a frightful chapter of individual cases, but defers his remedies for another volume. His chapter on early sudden death is one demanding the attention of the legislature, as he gives good reasons for his suspicion that a large amount of this death arises from the practice of infanticide. Should he not pursue the subject any further, he will have called attention to an important class of maladies,—and the result of his researches in the offices of the Registrar show for what important purposes that immense collection of data may be employed. There is one of these results so comforting at the present moment that we cannot but allude to it. He shows that putting together the year of cholera, 1849, with that of the succeeding year, the amount of deaths in the latter was so small that the mortality in the two years together did not exceed the average of the two preceding years 1847 and 1848, although the population had in that time increased considerably. As a book giving the results of some genuine work it is worthy the attention of the medical man and the public.

*A Manual of Practical Therapeutics*. By E. J. Waring, M.R.C.S. (Smith, Elder & Co.).—This book is really what its name imports, a manual of therapeutics, containing a large amount of information in a small space on the action of medicines. Mr. Waring has not satisfied himself with copying the works of his predecessors on the subject of *Materia Medica*, but has worked most diligently to obtain all possible information on the actions and uses of medicines. Although such a book may be somewhat bewildering to the student, it cannot fail to be of use to the practitioner who wants to know all about the properties and uses of a particular medicine. Its small size will also render it very acceptable just now to the hundreds of medical men preparing to start for the seat of

war or to our distant colonies, and to whom economy of space is of the first importance.

*The Treatment and Cure of Diseases incidental to Sedentary Life*. By William Pearce, M.R.C.S. (Groombridge).—In an age of great wealth and literary activity there is, no doubt, a great number of persons who suffer from need of exercise. Mr. Pearce has pointed out in a sensible manner the diseases to which such persons are exposed, and given general directions for their removal when they occur.

*Health for the Million*. By T. J. Sturt, M.D. (Highley).—A useful sixpennyworth of information, which would have been none the worse if the author had left out the recommendation of an assurance office—"the one in which I am myself assured,"—and the prospectus of which he undertakes to forward on application.

*Varieties of Pock*. By W. C. Dendy. (Highley.)—Strange as it may seem, it is not always easy to distinguish between small-pox, chicken-pox and cow-pox,—and Mr. Dendy, in this modest brochure, puts his pen and his pencil at the disposal of his medical brethren, to enable them to decide this point.

*The Lettsomian Lectures on Insanity*. By Forbes Winslow, M.D. (Churchill).—These Lectures were delivered before the London Medical Society, and embrace three subjects connected with insanity: 1, the psychological vocation of the physician; 2, the medical treatment of insanity; 3, medico-legal evidence in cases of insanity. As the results of the experience of a practitioner largely acquainted with the forms of insanity, they cannot fail to interest those who are called upon to treat this serious disease.

*The Ear in Health and Disease*. By W. Harvey, F.R.C.S. (Renshaw).—Mr. Harvey is well known as an auricular surgeon; and an epitome like the present, on the functions and diseases of the ear, will form an acceptable volume to the large mass of practitioners who have to attend to these diseases as well as every other which flesh is heir to. The volume contains a number of wood engravings.

*The Triple Aspect of Disease*. By W. Boys, M.D. (Churchill).—Dr. Boys is a poet, a philosopher and a physiologist,—and these are almost necessary qualities to write a good book on the practice of medicine. Yet we cannot but think that the Doctor's poetry and philosophy have carried him beyond the bounds of that strict taskmaster, Induction, and that consequently his physiology is unsound. Yet his book will afford a pleasant hour's reading to the student of medicine.

*Tracts on Homœopathy*. By W. Sharp, M.D., F.R.S. (Aylott & Co.).—The foundation of all inductive science is the law that effects are increased with the increase of their causes, decreased by the decrease of their causes, and changed with the change of their causes. Unless causes and effects answer to these laws, they are not regarded as such by sane people. In the face of these fundamental truths, Homœopathy says effects are increased by the decrease of their causes, and decreased by the increase of their causes,—and, therefore, asserts a folly which it is not worth the while of a man in his senses to look into. Moreover, we may add, that the man who is inclined to investigate this folly already betrays unsoundness of mind, and we would warn him against experimentation on the subject, which will be almost sure to end in his adopting the delusion. We feel ashamed to see so intelligent a man as Dr. Sharp the victim of so weak a delusion as the evidence of cure in homœopathy. Does he not see that an equally imposing array of figures and facts could be brought forward in favour of charms and amulets, the king's touch, the magnets of Mesmer, and the pills of Morison and Holloway? No amount of fine writing can explain away this fact, nor get him out of the unscientific position, in which he has placed himself.

*On Premontory Diarrhea in Cholera*. By D. Macleughlin, M.D.—*The Common-Sense of Cholera*. By a General Practitioner. (Churchill).—*Sulphur as a Remedy in Cholera*. By E. Grove. (Ridgway).—*A Letter on Epidemic Cholera*. By J. Ayre, M.D. (Churchill).—Cholera has swept over us again, for a third time, and gathered the same





Luxor and the Ramesseum, Thebes (g). The 8th (h) and 17th years occur with intermediate dates in other documents relating to this war, which lasted 16 years, closing with the treaty of peace dated in the year 21. Now at the siege of Poun, an undated incident of this war, six sons of Rameses appear by name; among them are the 9th, Seti, whom I regard as his successor, known as King Seti-Monoptah II.; and the 10th (Setep-en-Ra). It is only necessary to point out the absurdity of supposing that the 9th and 10th sons of Rameses could be old enough to hold military command before their father was 43 years old. This would have sufficed to show that the 1st historical year of Rameses II. cannot have been the same as the 1st of his total 66, even if we had not the Silsilis date under his first title to furnish positive proof of the fact.

Diodorus Siculus (l. i. cc. 53 and 58) states two circumstances relative to the great conqueror Sesostris, (Sesostris, Rameses II.), which monumental evidence thus curiously confirms—viz.: that he subdued the "Arabians" and "Libyans" during his father's lifetime; and that after he had reigned 33 years he became blind. Other ancient historians give no date; they only refer the affliction of Sesostris to his advanced age.

The year 35 is the highest date of Rameses II. found on an historical monument. It occurs on the great stele in the Temple of Abou-Simbel (Ch. p. 38). This document is a general record of his great deeds,—how by his victories he secured his country's peace, propitiating the favour of the gods and embellishing their temples. From its tenor, it looks very like the parting tribute of a grateful people to their venerated sovereign; and by its agreement with the date of Diodorus, it points towards the close of life and reign.

All higher dates than this last occur exclusively on personal or family memorials, and sub-include the 25 years of his co-regency. The most remarkable are on the set of steles among the religious memorials of Silsilis,—a posthumous tribute to the memory of Prince Shâ (Ch. Mon. pl. 115 to 119). They record the years of the king's royal pangs, in which Shâ officiated in his priestly character at the festivals appointed to celebrate the foundation of some sacred edifices in the province of which he was governor. These are the years 30, 34, 37, 40, and 45; equivalent to the years 5, 9, 12, 15, 20, of the historical series. The 38th year (18th hist.) occurs on a tablet at Abou-Simbel, the homage of a prince of Ethiopia; the 45th and 62nd (20th and 37th hist.) on two funeral tablets in the British Museum. Should any date be found on a memorial of this class, under the second title of Rameses, and lower than his 25th year, it would define more precisely the term of his co-regency, which I only estimate at 25 years, from the presumed age of his sons. At any rate, the absence of dates on all historical monuments under his first title is thus explained. So long as Seti lived, such dates in all public records would stand in his name. Our chronological division, which assigns 66 years to Rameses at the expense of his father's concluding 25, is in fact an incorrect arrangement.

Dates of Seti I. are unfortunately rare. Yet from his campaign against the Shasu in his 1st year I am constrained to place the co-regency of Rameses 5 or 6 years after (Ch. Mon. pl. 292). For the prince who follows Seti on that occasion bears a title peculiar to a king's eldest son, which is found with the name "Ramesu," in another victory of Seti, in which two princes appear. When Rameses thus accompanied his father to the wars, even if only as an ornamental appendage to the royal dignity as standard-bearer, he can hardly have been under 18; yet he could not be more than 23 when he was made co-regent, as we have seen. The motive of Seti's early appointment of a colleague is obviously that, without detriment to home affairs, he might prosecute with vigour those wars against the Rephaites foes of Egypt in their own lands, of which the Karnak sculptures record the triumphant issue after a contest of 9 years. It

is rather a pity that the pretty romance of the youthful "Sesostris" and his premature fame as conqueror of lands innumerable should have such a damper thrown over it as a grown-up son "at his left hand" in his earliest recorded expeditions; but Rameses certainly did not undertake the responsibility of military command until his father was become too aged for such arduous duty. By this arrangement, Seti I. would be about 70 years old at his death; his illustrious son survived him 41 years, and died in the 89th or 90th year of his age.

FANNY CORBAUX.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

La Cava, Val di Cecina, November, 1854.

ON the bleak top of a spur of the Apennines, some twenty miles south of the little town of Pontedera in the Val d'Arno, and looking over the barren high grounds on which the ancient Etruscan city of Volterra stands on one side, and down far below over the wide valley of the Cecina, and the blue Mediterranean with Elba in the distance on the other side, while "wind, that grand old harper, smites his thunder-harp"—not exactly of pines, as Alexander Smith says, but in this case of cypresses and oak most furiously around me,—for it is, in hardly less expressive language, blowing great guns—I am penning these lines. But no denizen of London is writing in more comfortable quarters. New publications, English, French, and American, lie around me. After my morning ramble among the fine points of view on the neighbouring hills, an excellent dinner, to which France, England, and distant Florence gardens had to contribute, awaited me. The fire is burning cheerily; the bed in the next room looks so inviting that the present letter will assuredly be a short one,—and the wind is welcome to howl its worst.

The luxuries of civilization do not go forth to pitch their tent amid mountain solitudes without some due and sufficient reason. Is this to be found in the peculiar appearance of the three hill-tops immediately above the house in which I am sitting, which, differing in colour and formation from the surrounding volcanic region so notably as to arrest the observation of the most unskilled eye, declare plainly to such as are skilled to see, the presence of mineral treasures? Not altogether. For though ancient workings have been found, proving that copper had been extracted from these hills by the Romans, and in all probability by the Etruscans also, and although in our own days attempts to work the mines with a profitable result had been made, yet Civilization, with her wet-nurse Wealth, stayed at home in her city haunts, and was not tempted to come out into the Apennine. There lay the means of wealth, but poverty only resulted from the attempt to seize them. The gnomes would understand no Italian conjuring, and held fast their treasure till the open sesame should be spoken by an Anglo-Saxon voice. English energy, enterprise, and skill had to be brought into contact with these same rich but rebellious red hill-tops before progress, wealth, well-being, and civilization could be evolved from them.

In 1827 a French company had tried the adventure, and at the end of ten years had satisfactorily convinced most lookers-on that the mines were worth nothing, and the working of them a ruinous blunder. At this juncture, an English gentleman, Mr. Sloane, was induced to visit the spot. His mineralogical science led him to form a prompt judgment of the value of the mines, despite the failure which had discredited them; and his unflinching reliance on this judgment induced him to become proprietor of all the shares which the previous owners did not wish to retain; an arrangement which made him the chief possessor and entire manager of the property. Since that time, a career of unbroken and ever-increasing success has rewarded the sagacity of his first opinion, and the energy and industry with which it has been carried out. The mine has proved a singularly rich one. The richest ore produces as much as eighty per cent. of copper, and the average product of the various qualities is about thirty per cent. A portion of the ore is exported as it is taken from the mine; but a large quantity is sent to be smelted

at the furnaces of Briglia, in the Val di Bisenzio, near Prato; where superior facilities of fuel (wood) and water-power are found, which repay the cost of so long a transport. The establishment of Briglia is also the property of the proprietor of the mine.

La Cava is in many respects an interesting spot; and additional instances of the ever-increasing spread of English industry and English capital over the face of the globe are always welcome. But I should probably have not thought it worth while to call attention to this example of it, if merely a tale of successful mining enterprise were to be read here, and if Mr. Sloane were engaged in giving no other lesson to the Tuscans than one of industrial energy,—grievously needed as that is. But, in truth, the social aspects of the mining community assembled on this bleak Apennine top are such as might justify their being proposed as a model in other lands than Tuscany; and make an Englishman feel that he would much rather that Italian eyes should receive their notions of English industrial arrangements from this exported specimen of them, than from many a home sample. Every part of the enterprise has been carried out with a large, enlightened, and prudent liberality, which is producing the most admirable results. The course pursued has not unfrequently been found an up-hill one. What advance towards good is not? The ground was wholly new; and the moral materials not the most favourable. But steady perseverance, rectitude of intention, and true philanthropy have prevailed; and a generation of workers is growing up at La Cava, which will probably be an unique specimen in Tuscany. Every boy is taught reading, writing and arithmetic; all have such practical knowledge imparted to them as will be most useful to them in the labour they are to be engaged on; and to the more promising a considerable amount of theoretical science on mining and kindred subjects is added. A girl school, fitted to produce good and thrifty housewives, has been also established. Every one on the works is taught to feel that he has an interest in the general success, and that this depends on the hearty and willing co-operation of all. Every boy on admission to the works agrees to a condition binding him to allow a certain per centage on his wages to be kept back to be invested for him at interest, and his parents are made consenting parties to the agreement, in order to secure to the lad the sum accruing when he shall come of age. Every young man thus begins his independent life with a sum varying from 20*l.* to 25*l.*—a vantage ground for the rising generation which has not been obtained for them without some jealous grumbling from the seniors, who are apt to see their children rising into independence not always with feelings of pleasure.

Among other manifestations of the various civilizing influences at work here, I had the pleasure of being present at a "prova generale" of the miners' band. A band-master is retained at the expense of the wise and liberal proprietor to give instruction in music to such of the workmen as manifest capabilities for it. This instruction, it must be observed, is given at hours taken, not from the repose of the labourers, but from the time of their work, without any diminution of their wages. A band costume—no small part of the reward of the successful musical students—has been provided for high days and holidays. But I was more struck and better pleased by seeing some twenty men and boys running up from the mine and out from the ore-washing houses, at the hour appointed for the practice, in their mining dresses and hot from work. Several pieces from Verdi's recent operas were executed very creditably; but the great pride of these musical gnomes was the score of a "Miners' March," written by Rossini, and presented to his friend Sloane especially for the use of his miners' band. The original, in the handwriting of the maestro, was framed, and formed the ornament of the concert-room.

I might say much of shafts and galleries, and adit-levels,—of a chapel to St. Barbara, the miners' saint, at the bottom of the mine,—of the geological interest attaching to this, in many respects, peculiar group of rocks,—of the fine and varied views in the environs, &c. &c.—but the moral and social

(g) Ch. Mon. pl. 18 to 83; 323 to 324; 326 to 331.

(h) Eight of the king's sons are introduced in the expedition with this date, but their names are not given. The same number are present at the undated siege of Poun, though only six have their names written over their heads.

aspects which have grown up here under the culture of a judicious, energetic, and large-hearted Englishman, were what I chiefly wished to advert to,—and the imperative reason above alluded to forbid my making this a longer letter.

T. A. T.

**OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.**  
M. Guerazzi, whose recent work, published at Pisa, and suppressed by orders from Florence, has had an immense clandestine circulation and created a sensation in Italy—is engaged on two new themes. A novel may be shortly expected from his hand, having General Paoli, the last of the Corsicans, for hero. So much is significant. This figure, already so familiar to all imaginations, when re-animated with the fiery breath of the Italian patriot will doubtless "stutter the Volscians in Corioli," even more than Lucretia. Happily the Tuscan police wants wit to enforce its own decrees. It may render the intellectual pleasure contraband, but it cannot prevent it. Another subject which M. Guerazzi has in hand for literary treatment is Burlamacchi, the famous conspirator of Lucca. This work may be expected at a later day.

The circle within which the literary pirate may safely follow his vocation is gradually contracting. After long negotiation, many hesitations and much loss of time, Belgium has at length acceded to the literary convention with England. On Friday, last week, the vote of the Belgian legislature was taken—in the affirmative.

Among other letters on the subject of the violation of copyright at the Cape of Good Hope, we have the following, with a practical suggestion:—"In your observations in last week's *Athenæum* on the enactment of a law at the Cape of Good Hope, permitting American reprints to be imported into that colony, you properly say—"Admit the principle, and all our colonies will adopt the rule. What is good in Cape Colony will be thought good in Australia, Canada, Hindostan, and the West Indies." Now, my belief is, that a law of this kind is already in operation in the British American colonies, where, during my late visit, I found American reprints of British copyrights on every bookseller's counter. Inquiring into the subject in Nova Scotia, I was informed that, by a lately enacted colonial law, such pirated reprints were admitted on payment of a certain fine or duty, the amount of which was to be handed over to the proprietors of the copyright works so imported; but on pressing the question, I learned that not one farthing had ever been so paid over to any English publisher. Whether, however, there is such a sharp law or not, the result is practically the same. Reprints of books and periodicals from New York are admitted in vast abundance without the slightest obstacle into Canada, and all the other British American possessions; and as these countries are becoming great and populous, and with a prevalent taste for English literature, the damage done to British publishers is more than can be justly estimated. Publishers in this country, as a class, have surely been remiss in allowing this gross invasion of their rights to go on so long; and unless they speedily interpose, their exports to the colonies will at no very distant day cease altogether. The question, indeed, has another bearing. The stoppage of the trade in pirated editions to the colonies would be felt as a severe blow by piratical American houses, and help materially to promote the enactment of a law of international copyright in the United States. As a complaint from one party can be of little avail, I should recommend a meeting of English publishers to consider what steps should be adopted.—Yours, &c. W. CHAMBERS."

Edinburgh, December 26.  
As a result of the literary international treaty between France and Belgium, we have to record that already the publishers of Paris have sent 10,000 volumes to Brussels, to be deposited in the *Bibliothèque Royale* of that city.

The following notice has been issued:—"The meetings of the Geographical Society will be henceforth held at the Society's new house, No. 15, Whitehall Place. If a Member desires to introduce more than one visitor to the meeting he is requested

to apply to the Secretary for a card of admission, and visitors are required to remain in the Library until the chair is taken. The map-rooms of the Society will be open to the public from 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. daily until further notice."

Mr. Knighton, author of 'Tropical Sketches,' reviewed by us last week, writes in explanation:—"The courtesy which you have formerly displayed towards me emboldens me to offer an explanation relative to one point connected with 'Tropical Sketches' which has met with your condemnation. The MS. of that work was in the hands of the publishers in June last, and I had no idea when our agreement was made that its publication would have been so long delayed. It was impossible for me, therefore, to give any account of the changes proposed in the scheme of Government Education in India. In the Preface, which went through the press in September, I stated that these 'Sketches' were already rather a record 'of what was than of what is,' and that the Council of Education of Bengal had acknowledged its own deficiencies. I could do no more."—We willingly give insertion to the above. Does not this case of Mr. Knighton offer one more instance of the impolicy of authors attempting unfair reserve towards their readers? Mr. Knighton's Preface is dated October—not September—when, according to his own statement, it ought to have been June. An error of four months in the date of a book may sometimes be a great wrong.

The late Mr. Croker's library has been sold, and the lots have not brought extravagant prices. The collections for a History of the Popular Ballad Literature of Ireland, consisting chiefly of transcripts from manuscript and printed sources, sold for 13*l.* The Ballads, broadsides, and folio pamphlets, Irish and English, published between 1679 and 1725, a collection in 3 vols., sold for 13*l.* 5*s.* A collection of Historical Tracts relative to the period of the Civil Wars in Ireland, 1641, &c., formerly in the Heber collection, sold for 72*l.* The first five editions of Walton's Angler sold together for 29*l.* 10*s.* The Ormonde Letters and Papers, 6 vols., folio, sold for 130*l.* The Orerry Letters sold for 60*l.* Lot 864, a large mass of original letters, forming the materials from which, chiefly, the Memoirs of Viscountess Soudon, edited by Mrs. Thomson, were compiled, sold for 21*l.* The Shakespeare "betrothal ring" sold for 7*l.* 5*s.*

A cash-book, with a new binding, has been sent to us by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons. The binding is apparently very strong and durable, but the great novelty is, that the book can be taken out of its cover. The leaves open well and lie flat when open. Altogether, the book is one of the best account-books we have seen.

Messrs. Lettis & Co. have issued a ruled form for a Library Catalogue, which strikes us as good and useful for small private collections of books. There is space for a shelf-mark, for the author's name, the price—also a line for the name of that very troublesome spirit in a library, the borrower. We cannot but think, however, that the book would be improved by being made an Index as well as a Catalogue, which might easily be effected.

Seekers for holiday amusements will be rather puzzled by the variety of choice. Not to speak of theatres, concerts, gardens, promenades, or even of the panoramas and dioramas which need not venture on Christmas novelties in order to attract Christmas idlers to their well-known benches, we find that Mr. Burford, of Leicester Square, has produced a panoramic view of the Battle of the Alma,—that Mr. Hernoe Vere offers the public a seat in Sir E. Lyons's Brougham 'The Argemoupon,' in the Lawther Arcade,—that Mr. Pepper, of the Polytechnic Institution in Regent Street, has added to the many interesting features of that establishment a phantasmagoria of Sindbad the Sailor, which we recommend to all young readers of the Arabian Nights,—that Mr. Wyld, of the Great Globe, has arranged a Gallery of War Portraits in an ante-room of the Globe, including Lord Raglan, St. Arnaud, Omer Pasha, and Schamyl,—that those Lilliputian impostors, the "Aztec Gods of Ximaya," are to be seen daily at the Hanover Square Rooms,—and that Mr. Love, of ventriloquial fame, has opened his "London

Season" in Regent Street to wondering audiences of old and young. Here is variety at least to suit all tastes.

Dr. Martin Joseph Routh, the marvellous old man of Oxford, President of Magdalen College for upwards of sixty years, died on Friday the 22nd inst., in his hundredth year, after a few days of illness. Dr. Routh's literary life was moderately successful. His chief published work is 'Reliquie Sacree,'—a work of research, preposterously overpraised by Dr. Parr;—and he edited Burnett's 'History of my own Life and Times,' and the 'Reign of James the Second.' A few theological tracts by Dr. Routh, of no great interest, have been privately printed.

The vacant Professorship of Geometry in Gresham College has been filled up by the election of the Rev. M. Cowie, late Fellow of St. John's College, and Hulsean Lecturer in the University of Cambridge. Mr. Cowie was senior wrangler in 1839, and for several years was Principal of the Engineers' College at Putney.

From Paris we hear of the death of Victor Hannequin, an enthusiast who made the talk of a day in 1850-51. He was a member of the National Assembly; and an intellect that revolution itself did not overthrow, was wrecked on the table-turning delusion. Two years ago he wrote a crazy book with the title 'Let us save the human race,' full of revelations in the American style. Since that time he has issued the first volume of a book on 'Religion.'—M. Baour Lormian, an old member of the Academy, is also dead. His *Poésies Galiques*, his tragedies *Omias* and *Mahommed*, his translation of Tasso's *Jérusalem délivrée*, are not yet forgotten; the last-named work lives in the sharp and untranslatable epigram of Le Brun:—  
C'est le Tasse de Toulouse;  
Qui mourut in-quarto, puis remourut in-douze;  
Et qui, ressuscité par un effort nouveau,  
Vient de mourir in-octave.

M. Lormian wrote some poems in the style of Ossian.

During the session of eleven days Mr. Ewart brought in his bill to amend the Library Act of 1850. Mr. Ewart's object is to extend the benefits of the Act of 1850 to towns governed under local acts—as well as corporations—and to parishes in which towns and hamlets may be associated for this purpose. It requires the Council of any municipal borough, of which the population shall exceed 5,000 persons, to call a public meeting, on the requisition of 10 persons paying the borough rate, to determine whether this Act shall be adopted for the said municipal borough; and, if at such meeting two-thirds of the persons present, and qualified, shall determine that the Act ought to be adopted, the same shall thenceforth take effect and come into operation. The expenses of carrying the Act into execution are to be defrayed from the borough fund, and the Council is empowered, if it think fit, to levy a separate rate for the purpose. "Improvement Boards" may adopt the Act and charge the expense on the improvement rate, if the requisitions with regard to population and the decision of two-thirds of a public meeting be complied with. Parishes with a population of 5,000 may adopt the Act, with the consent of two-thirds of the ratepayers, and the vestry will then appoint from three to seven Commissioners from the ratepayers, to carry the Act into effect, to dispose of lands, and to sue and be sued as a body corporate. One-third of this commission will go out of office annually. The expenses are to be paid out of the poor-rate. The vestries of two or more neighbouring parishes, having an aggregate population exceeding 5,000 persons, may conjointly adopt the Act in the manner already described, the expenses to be borne in proportion; and three Commissioners may be appointed by each parish to manage the library or museum. No rate levied for the purposes of this Act in any borough, district, or parish, is to exceed one penny in the pound. The Councils are empowered to borrow sums of money for the purposes of the Act, with the approval of Her Majesty's Treasury, and the Public Works Loan Commissioners are empowered to advance such sums of money. Lands, &c. may be appropriated, purchased, or rented, for the purposes of this Act.



The general management and control of the libraries and museums formed under this Act are to be vested in the Councils of boroughs, in the Boards of districts, and in the Commissioners of parishes; and all real and personal property purchased for any library or museum is to be vested in the same respectively. All libraries and museums established under this Act are to be open to the public free of charge.

Among the latest arrivals at the Zoological Gardens is the celebrated Canadian bear "Jenny," which has long been the pet of the 71st Highlanders. These gallant fellows determined to present her to the Zoological Society on their departure for the Crimea—on the safe principle, we suppose, of not carrying coals to Newcastle. "Jenny" is lodged in a provisional den until a suitable opportunity occurs for introducing her to the society of the Bear-pit, where it is to be hoped she will meet with the welcome so highly civilized a member of the Ursine family is entitled to receive from its comparatively ignorant occupants—in spite of its old patrons being now engaged in hostilities against the patron of bears! "Jenny" is not the first gift which the Zoological Society has received from the 71st. Her predecessor in their regards ended his days in the Gardens not many years since,—a grand old monkey, well known to the visitors as "Toby," who ruled his division of the house with a merciful but impressive sternness, which had the best effect on the recruits entrusted to his care. The Society have just received three interesting little varieties belonging to the delicate group of Marmosets. They consist of a pair of the silken-haired lion monkey, and a beautifully coloured specimen of the pinche. The former specimen is new to the collection, and very seldom reaches Europe in life.

We hail with pleasure every ray of intellectual light in France. Of late the question has been raised of giving air and scope to the literary energies of that great nation; and the other day M. Guizot made a speech in the Academy remarkable for the utterance of opinions long held down under the hoofs of the Imperial Guard. M. Guizot, says the *Daily News*, began with an anecdote. In a debate in the Chamber in 1821 upon a question of a reform in the criminal law, M. de Serre, Minister of Justice, spoke of the dangers which legislators might be led to encounter by the pride of theory. M. Royer-Collard, in answer, said he knew another danger—the pretension of absolutely dispensing with theory, and not being obliged to know what you say when you speak and what you do when you act. This, said M. Guizot, is the best and only answer to make to those who look upon your Academy with distrust and displeasure. You know better than anybody the dangers of theory, but you will not the less persist in believing that when the government of men is in question this knowledge is necessary. To diffuse that knowledge was precisely the end proposed by the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences.—When, in 1832, M. Guizot proposed the re-establishment of this Academy to Louis Philippe, that monarch readily acceded to the proposal, saying only, "It will be very useful, provided it is not in too great a hurry to be listened to, and does not make too much noise."—The Academy was not at the present day in any danger of committing any such mistake. There was now no noise in our fatigued society. Political life had become calm and modest. Whether it was that political men bowed to the existing laws, or that after the manner of those pious men who in the olden time retired from the world to repent their past follies, he would not undertake to say. For his own part, he was not sure that people made all the use they might do of the liberty yet left them.—M. Guizot defined the objects of the Academy to be to imbue men's minds with the principle of duty, to blend order with liberty, morals with politics, and religion with morals; to practise and maintain that liberty of conscience and of human thought, which consisted not in the right to choose at pleasure between truth and error, but in the right never to suffer the yoke of material force, and to be guided alone by that great spiritual power which God had left to be discussed by man when he created him intel-

ligent and free. One of the most prominent features of human arrogance was the belief entertained by some men that they were more powerful to do evil than they were in reality. The short and fleeting passage of a human being in this world might be marked by foolish agitation,—he might trouble order and rail at liberty; but the world was so ordered that men could not in the main nor with impunity disturb its eternal laws.—Persist, then gentlemen, with confidence in the double tendency of your efforts.—You will thus respond to the double need of our times. Faith in the truth and in humanity has its trials; but in the serene regions which you explore you may hope for success; for God, who chastises men when they give way to pride, regards them with a clement eye, and comes to their aid, when they maintain their dignity.

**THE EVENING EXHIBITION OF MODERN PICTURES AND DRAWINGS OF THE BRITISH SCHOOL, IS OPEN** during the holidays from 7 to 10 o'clock, brilliantly lighted with gas, at the Gallery No. 1, Pall Mall. Admission, 5s. 6d. The Morning Exhibition continues open as usual.

**COLOSSEUM, Regent's Park.—Admission, 1s.**—The original PANORAMA OF LONDON BY DAY is exhibited daily, from half-past ten till half-past four. Museum of Sculpture, Conservatories, Swiss Cottage, &c. The extraordinary PANORAMA OF LONDON BY NIGHT, every Evening from Seven till Ten. Music from Two till half-past four, and during the Evening.

**CYCLOPEDIA, Albany Street.—NOW OPEN,** with a Colossal Moving Panorama of the City and Bay of NAPLES, MOUNT VESUVIUS, and POMPEII, exhibiting the great Eruption of 79, and present state of the Excavated City. Painted by Mr. J. M. Neve, from sketches taken by himself in 1855. Daily at Three and Eight o'clock, with appropriate Music and Description.—Admission, 1s.; Children and Schools, half-price.

**MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC IS NOW OPEN** EVERY EVENING, commencing on Tuesday, the 10th inst. Morning Representations take place every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, at 3 o'clock. Stalls can be taken at the Box-office every day, from 10 till 4.—**EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.**

**LOVE'S NEW ENTERTAINMENTS.—Christmas Holidays.**—Ventriloquism Extraordinary.—Upper Hall, Regent Gallery, &c. Quadrant, Regent Street, completely refitted for the occasion, with New Estimates, New Stage, New Clock-room, &c. Every Evening at 8, except Saturday; Saturday, at 3.—Mr. LOVE, universally accepted as the first dramatic ventriloquist in Europe, will present his NEW ENTERTAINMENT, with appropriate music and appointments throughout, called "THE LONDON SEASON," and other entertainments. Piano-forte, Miss Julia Warran.—Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s.—Tickets at Mitchell's Royal Library, 21, Old Bond Street; Turner's Music Depot, 10, Foulry; and at the Rooms, between 19 and 2.

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.**  
**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.**—The following REMARKABLE NOVELTIES have been SPECIALLY PREPARED.—LECTURE by J. H. PEPPEY, Esq., on Professor Wheatstone's Experiments on the TRANSMISSION OF SOUND through Solid Conductors, illustrated by a TELEPHONIC CONCERT.—FIRST PART OF AN ENTIRELY NEW AND SPLENDID OPTICAL DIORAMA, illustrating the VOYAGES OF SINDBAD the SAILOR, with beautiful PHANTASMAGORIA EFFECTS, and appropriate Music, arranged by Mr. W. Wand.—MONDAY EVENING, the 1st of January, first of a NEW COURSE OF MONDAY EVENING LECTURES on the INDUSTRIAL CLASSES: ON THE CHEMISTRY OF LIFE, by Dr. LETHEBY.—Great INCREASE in the VIEWS OF THE WAR: THE BATTLE OF THE ALPES, SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL, the ENGLISH BATTERIES, &c. &c.—LECTURE on the MINIE RIFLE, and that powerful implement of War, the STEAM GUN, projecting SIXTY BALLS per minute, which has been erected by Mr. PERKINS, and will be displayed daily, and in the Evening.—LECTURES on ELECTRICITY, by Dr. BACHOFNER.—MR. CRAWFORD'S VOCAL ENTERTAINMENT OF THE PATRIOTIC SONGS OF SCOTLAND.—For the special AMUSEMENT of the JUVENILE AUDIORITY, DAVIS'S INGENUOUS MARIONETTES will be exhibited.—All the other LECTURES, EXHIBITIONS OF MODELS, &c.—Fresh Decorations.

Special Juvenile Night on the 3rd of January, and gratuitous distribution of the Ornaments of a beautiful Christmas Tree amongst the Young People.

MR. VAN NOODEN'S NEW MUSICAL GAME, the POLY-HARMONICON, explained Daily by the Inventor.

## SCIENTIFIC

### SOCIETIES.

**GEOGRAPHICAL.—Dec. 18.**—The Earl of Sheffield in the chair.—The Hon. F. Byron, Mr. A. Devaux, Mr. J. Glen, Capt. J. T. Paulson, R.N., Mr. F. P. Stevens, and Mr. M. Uzielli, were elected Fellows.—Reports from Dr. Barth, addressed to the Chevalier Bunsen, dated Timbuktú, November 23, 1853, and March 24, 1854, announcing his departure from that place, communicated through the Foreign Office.—Despatch from Consul Herman to the Earl of Clarendon, dated Tripoli, October 3 and 24, and November 6, 1854, reporting that the African mission has not yet returned to Kuka, from the south.—Letter from the Foreign Office to Dr. Shaw, reporting the death of Dr. Barth.

**ASIATIC.—Dec. 16.**—Prof. Wilson, Director, introduced a Hindú newspaper, called the *Sudhakar*, published at Benares. He observed that, among the many periodicals in native languages which issue from the press of India, and disseminate

much knowledge as well as news, the paper contained matter of a higher character than what is usually found in such journals, and was specially remarkable for an article by a learned Hindú on an ancient stone pillar recently brought from Ghazipur by Major Kittoe, and erected in front of the new College at Benares. Up to the present time the Hindús have been regardless of the antiquities of their country, and it has been left to the scholars of Europe to make known and explain her monuments.—Prof. Wilson read a continuation of his papers, 'On the Festivals of the Hindús.'

**SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 21.**—Mr. J. P. Collier in the chair.—The Rev. T. Hugo presented casts of the inscriptions in the Beauchamp Tower in the Tower of London.—Mr. Brodie, of Salisbury, exhibited through the Secretary several relics obtained by him during the recent excavations for drainage in that city.—Mr. Walford communicated some remarks on one of those objects, which bore the arms of Montacute and Grandison.—Mr. Gill communicated, through Mr. Gough Nichols, an account of a Roman pavement discovered at Oulston, near Easingwold, last autumn.

**BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Dec. 13.**—S. R. Solly, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. F. H. Davis exhibited a figure of Thalia, measuring 15 inches in height, which belonged to the late Earl of Elgin.—Mr. Clarke, of Easton, announced the discovery of some Roman coins, together with a large flint arrow-head, at that place; also, a fine example of a rial or rose noble of Edward the Fourth, found near Halesworth.—Mrs. Prest exhibited a silver box which had been in her family for a long period. On the lid was engraved a portrait of Edward the Sixth, crowned, and surrounded by martial emblems. Beneath the portrait the following inscription:—

Edward 6<sup>th</sup> of the Right Line  
Th's puts an end to Edward's Coin.  
H. P. 1506.

—It was suggested that the box may have been made of the coinage of Edward the Sixth from the construction of the last line.—Eustace Gray, Esq., transmitted a drawing of a font in Winston Church, near Darlington. On it is represented a combat between two dragons, each of which is furnished with a fish's tail having an acorn at the two ends.—Mr. Wakeman, of Monmouth, and Mr. Dew, of Moyne Court, communicated some brief notices of the discovery of a leaden coffin, inclosed within a stone cist, and accompanied by a variety of curious particulars, respecting which inquiry was directed to be made, and a drawing obtained.—Sir Fortunatus Dwarries, V.P., exhibited some interesting coins belonging to Col. Watkyns, M.P., lately found near Brecon:—**CAESAR, AVGVSTVS**, bare head of Augustus, reverse, SIGNIS RECEPTIS, S. P. Q. R., a buckler between two standards. The rarity of this is great; it is not mentioned in Akerman's Catalogue, and was struck on the recovery of the Legions of Varrus:—**IMP. CAESAR, VESPASIANVS**, reverse, P. M. MAX. TR. P. COS. P. A Caduceus, IMP. C. P. LIG. VALERIANVS (AVGG.), reverse, VICTORIA. AVGG. (Augustorum), Victory with shield and palm.—The remainder of the evening was occupied in the reading of a paper by Mr. G. V. Irving 'On the Geography of the Wars of the Saxons in Northumberland with the Northern Britons,'—and the Society adjourned to January the 14th.

**NUMISMATIC.—Dec. 21.**—J. B. Bergne, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. Roach Smith exhibited a mould for casting Roman large brass coins, found at Castor, in Northamptonshire. Mr. Smith remarked that this is the only mould that has ever been met with for casting coins of so large a size.—Mr. Evans read a curious paper on the errors which had, at different times, been committed by the engravers who had been entrusted with the engraving of the dies for different coins and medals. Some of these errors are of a ludicrous nature:—as, for instance, where, in one case, by a mistaken legend, Ferdinand the Second has been described as a D.D. Mr. Ellis also enumerated several cases in which virtues had been superstitiously assigned to parti-

cular coins, as preservatives from gunshot wounds, dysentery, fever, and other illnesses.

**STATISTICAL.**—Dec. 18.—The Rt. Hon. Holt Mackenzie, V.P., in the chair.—Seven candidates were elected Fellows.—'On the Statistical Position of Religious Bodies in England and Wales,' by Mr. H. Mann.

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—Dec. 19.—*Annual General Meeting.*—James Simpson, Esq., President, in the chair.—The Annual Report of the retiring Council was read, and the following gentlemen were elected to fill the several offices in the Council for the ensuing year:—James Simpson, President; G. P. Bidder, I. K. Brunel, J. Locke, M.P., R. Stephenson, M.P., Vice-Presidents; J. Cubitt, J. E. Errington, J. Fowler, C. H. Gregory, J. Hawkshaw, T. Hawksley, J. R. McLean, C. May, J. Penn, and J. Scott Russell, Members; and H. Hensman and Sir J. Paxton, M.P., Associates.

**PHILOLOGICAL.**—Dec. 22.—Prof. Key in the chair.—Signor Bernardino Biondelli, of Milan, was elected an Honorary Member.—Two papers were read:—'On the Vocalization or Evanesence of the Nasal Liquid in Greek,' by the Rev. Dr. J. W. Donaldson.—'A Comparison of the Names of Common Things and of Particles in the Indo-European and Semitic Languages,' by the Rev. J. Davies.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

**WED.** Geological, 8.—On a submerged Forest at Fort Lawrence, Nova Scotia, by Mr. J. W. Dawson.—On some new small Reptilian Remains from Furber, by Prof. Owen.—On a large Fossil Cuttle-fish from the Kimmeridge Clay, by Prof. Owen.—On the Tertiarities of Capel and its Vicinity, by Mr. W. J. Hamilton.

**THURS.** Zoological, 8.—General.

**FRI.** Royal Academy, 8.—Architecture, by Prof. Cockerell. Archæological Institute, 4.

#### FINE ARTS

*An Essay on Church Furniture and Decoration.* By the Rev. Edward L. Cutts, B.A. Crockford. This essay is a small-typed, heavy, accurate, useful, archaeological tract, digestible by the elect, caviare to the general.

The author is the Honorary Secretary of the Essex Archaeological Society, and author of a small work on Sepulchral Slabs and Crosses. The dryness of our author's style arises, we are sure, rather from a desire to be accurate, condensed, and brief, than from any inability to write more pleasingly. The best proof of this is two very graphic passages in his remarks on Gothic polychrome. He believes that the Goths, like all other great architects, never divorced colour and form. The old builders, he thinks, who had to deal with marbles and mosaics, looked only upon oak and stone as rude materials, requiring enrichment,—compo and deal having not yet given them, by comparison, a real as well as an imaginary value. He says—

"We shall understand this the better, and thereby more justly appreciate the subject of polychrome as it was applied to mediæval churches, and as it is proposed to be restored now, if we at once plainly picture to ourselves the contrast between the outside appearance of the England of the middle ages and the England of to-day. Carry yourself back, in imagination, to the fourteenth century, and wander through England with the eye of an artist. As you ride along green-margined roads, through solemn forests, across purple commons, the groups of travellers you meet are clad in bright colours, with gaily caparisoned horses, and form a succession of brilliant pictures against the background of the forest green, or the flowery turf. You pass an assembly of knights and dames holding a tournament in the meadow before a baronial castle; the green field is covered with tents, striped red and white and blue; and the windows and balconies of the castle are flaunting with embroidered hangings, which wave in the breeze; and the crowd of spectators around the lists is gay as a flock of tropical birds. Look at that knight, who is resting from the combat beside the well hard by: his armour is of silver scales, covered with a jupon of azure, embroidered with his armorial bearing—a lion rampant or; and it is girded with a belt of brightest enamels, and fastened by a clasp of jewels. The scabbards of his sword and dagger are of gold, chased with delicate devices, and their hilts are jewelled; and his shield, which hangs from the tree-trunk beside him, and the helmet at its foot, are coloured also azure and gold. Leave the brave knights to their braveries and courtesies, and ride on to the city in the distance: the houses are not only picturesque in form and rich in quaint carving, but they are enriched with colour and gilding also; and, on

festivals, from every window hang rich tapestries, on which the fair wives and daughters of the citizens lean to see the show beneath;—so that these bright actors move in a scene of harmonious richness. Inside Master Citizen's house, with whom you lodge, the scene is equally brilliant: tapestried walls of green and gold, stained windows, gilded ceilings. And when you go to church for evensong, the same glorious harmony of nature's brightest hues; its walls are diapered, its windows glowing like gems; its carved capitals, mouldings and screens, and tabernacle-work, picked out with blue, and green, and red, and white, and gold; its roof of gilded beams supports a heaven of blue, studded with golden stars; its eastern end a dream of splendour, with rich hues and burning lamps, and costly plate and jewels; and the priests and deacons are clothed in cope and dalmatic of embroidered blue and green and cloth of gold. We have not the heart to lead you through modern England; to take you to the platform of a railway station, and show you its confused crowd of eager people dressed in black and white, and grey and drab, rushing hither and thither; or to point out to you the descendant of that mail-clad knight, not less noble and chivalric at heart than his ancestor, but disguised in a black tail-coat, and grey trousers, black hat, black boots, and black neck-tie, relieved with a white collar and wristbands; or to drag you up and down weary streets of dirty red brick or drab stucco; or to wait until Sunday, in order to introduce you to that same church we just now saw, only now with a flood of white light upon its dirty whitewashed walls, with a patch of discordant red in the altar-cloth, and another in the pulpit—occupied by a priest in black. \* \* \* Ah! interrupts one of our readers, 'away with these puerile affectations and gaudy conceits, which rob worship of its simplicity and solemnity; would we might still worship as the primitive Christians, or the Scottish Covenanters did, in the hill-side, or in some forest dell, in the grand simple temple of nature!' In truth, Sir, we admit it: our mediæval parish church looks very unsatisfactory, after such a picture as you have conjured up before us. We renounce our mediævalisms, and return with you, Sir, to gaze upon it; it is a quiet solemn scene—there is such an one in Derbyshire, a limestone dell, where William Monksop used to pray with his flock, when the plague made it unwise to assemble in their village church of Eyam:—a beautiful quiet picture—the group of homely worshippers, with nothing but the rough rock for their church walls, and the forest trees for their cathedral aisles, and the pure canopy of heaven for their vaulted roof! But look, Sir! the limestone rock is niched and bossed, and stained with yellow and green moss, and boughs of bramble trail over it, and tufts of fern and flowers spring from its clefts and crannies; and the floor of your simple church is of emerald green, brodered with pink-white-anemone, and blue harebell, and red lychnis; and your rustic trees have stains of russet-red and yellow-green lichens upon their fretted rich-brown boles; and their boughs arch overhead into a roof of Gothic vaulting, whose spandrels are filled in with the deep blue of the summer sky! Suddenly, with a wizard's wand, strike out all the colour, and leave the whole scene of the line of dusty stone and dirty whitewash; the beauty of your simple natural church is gone!—though you might, perhaps, in time, teach yourself hardly to miss the colour, and to take delight instead in the beauty of the forms; just as we can delight in the network of the winter boughs, when the autumn leaves are gone. But, again, sear the rough rock-wall and whitewash it; trim your gnarled-tree trunk into straight poles; block out the Gothic tracery of the boughs, and their spandrels of gaudy blue, with a white sheet. Bah! hideous!"

The Norman wall-painting seems at first to have been in imitation of the marbles of the Byzantine churches, or of the rich hangings that decorated the private houses. Sometimes they had hangings above and painted pannels below. The smallest village churches in England had their frescoes, more or less rude, more or less perfect. There can be no question the broadest effects of colour were attempted at Wells Church; the upper wall of the south aisle had a red ground diapered with yellow stars, and the pillars were covered with arabesques. At Beckley, in Oxfordshire, even the belfry walls were covered with a flowing pattern of the herb Bennet. The piers were frequently coloured red and gilded. In richer work, the mouldings of pier and arch are illuminated, and the pier banded with spiral lines of colour or painted in chevrons. The roof beams were gilt, and the pannels painted blue and powdered with stars, or stencilled with patterns. In a fourteenth-century MS. in the British Museum, the walls of a church are pink, relieved with a net-work of darker lines. At Feering Church, Essex, the wall is painted a slate colour, diapered with a black flower. There is no doubt the Mediæval buildings were painted even externally, not buff and white as we paint them; the mouldings of doorways, the crest tiles and the stringcourse of windows, and the leads of houses were gilt and painted. At Fountains Abbey there is a Norman door moulding painted white and red, the hood moulding in zig-zag bands, alternately black, white and red. At Hitchin Church, Hertfordshire, there is a perpendicular porch, painted yellow, brown and red.

We have lost all feeling for colour, and shall need long education before we delight in the gor-

geous hues that gratified mediæval eyes, insured to the glitter of tournaments and the solemn gorgeousness of Abbey processions. In a painting of the reign of Richard the Second, the ceiling is red and gold. In another, all the spandrels, ribs, reredos, &c. are gilt, and the ceilings are blue.

In many of these instances the walls are faintly tinted with lavender or some such tint, which is probably intended to indicate that the walls were not painted, or had only a light wash of colour upon them; but in other instances we find gorgeous wall-patterns: e.g., in the MS. Tiberius, B. 2, at f. 33, the interior of a church is diapered with a very rich mosaic pattern of blue and red, in a style of which we have very many examples throughout the preceding MSS. used as backgrounds for the illuminations, and on the walls of domestic apartments. It must be confessed that these diapers of blue and red and gold are very rich, but not richer than the colouring of very many works which still remain. In many of our churches (especially cathedrals) we find portions of wall-surfaces richly sculptured in diaper, and we cannot doubt that this was always enriched with colour; and we can as little doubt that this very diaper, which in rich work was carved into the stone, was in less sumptuous work painted upon its surface. At f. 21 we have an interior painted blue, powdered with gold fleurs-de-lis. The interiors of the domestic buildings will furnish the artist with very many examples of wall patterns and hangings, &c. &c.; and with authorities for the harmonious arrangement of the colours in the different parts of a building—a subject of too great magnitude to be entered upon here.

As to stained-glass windows, where high-Art designs cannot be obtained, the author recommends dulling the glass, and putting in a patch-work of scraps of coloured glass harmoniously arranged. He believes that a few of the Pre-Raphaelites could execute designs for small windows equal to the work of the old glass-painters.

The Communion-table, Mr. Cutts decides, should be a table and not a stone altar; firstly, because the Passover table was probably of wood; and secondly, as symbolical of the Cross. It should be neither obtrusively large nor meanly small; of sumptuous appearance, richly carved. For altar chairs he repudiates the poor Tudor and Jacobian manufactures of Wardour Street, and points back to examples on great seals and in the Harleian Froissart.

There is no doubt that a great Art-education is being effected by this revival of Gothic taste succeeding to a revival of Classical taste. A modern church might be a perfect combination of richness of form and colour. The altar-rails of worked metal, the chancel screen of open tracery, the chancel stalls canopied and carved, the lectern of rich brass or graven oak, the pulpit pannelled with stone, the pews with their rich poppy-heads, the doors shaded with brodered hangings, the altar woven over with gold, the church plate embossed, the lamps beaten into typical shapes, the pavements of coloured tiles, the monuments of sculptor's work, the alms-chest rough with chasing, the walls bright with frescoes, the altar-piece solemn with religious colour, the windows jewelled and stained, the minister's vestments simple, but tasteful.

The true spirit of Protestantism never warred against Art. The Classical revival and not Popery produced Raphael. The classical spirit also patronized Michael Angelo.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—We understand that Mr. Wornum has been appointed to succeed General Thwaites as Secretary to the Trustees of the National Gallery:—and this appointment, we infer, implies a disposition to proceed with the organization of that department of the public service.

In explanation of a point in our summary of Mr. Ruskin's Lecture on Colour, the lecturer writes:—"I should be obliged to you if you would correct the mis-statement in your last number of what I said respecting purple and scarlet in my last lecture at the Architectural Museum, as your reporter seems to have mixed his notes, and has precisely reversed my statement. I said that nearly all harmonies of colour in which red was prominent were best attained, in illumination, by mingling purple with scarlet; and avoiding crimson. I said that nature always used purple and scarlet in her dawns and sunrises, but rarely crimson; and I showed the flower of the cactus as an example of the union of purple with scarlet, not with crimson. What I brought forward afterwards respecting the Venetian masters, referred entirely to the varieties of dim scarlet and purple which are found in their

works. That is nominal.

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works. The flowers with which the idea of blood is nominally associated are crimson, not scarlet.

"I have the honour, &c. J. RUSKIN."

A very creditable application of moulded brick to architectural purposes may be seen in the new gateway of the London Necropolis, Westminster Bridge. The deep Saxon billet moulding and massive semi-circular arch look exceedingly well in the rich, deep red contrasting with the lozenge work of lighter colours.

We understand that M. de Keyser is about to be appointed Director of the Academy of Arts at Antwerp.

At a late meeting of the Royal Institute of British Architects, Mr. J. Fergusson excited much interest by a lecture he delivered upon the tombs of Beesjapore. The domes cover a larger area than those of any European building, and are constructed upon a principle unknown to European architects. The walls are covered with intricate geometrical designs, superior to even the Alhambra.

There is a complaint, we understand, that the late competitor for the Royal Academy's silver medal for the best measured drawing of Burlington House did not fulfil the necessary conditions imposed on the competitors; which, if true, adds one more to the many instances which have of late occurred to impeach the system of prizes in Art.

M. Theodore Lejeune, the restorer of Coppel and De la Fosse at the Invalides, has just completed the restoration of Freminet's paintings in the Chapel of the Palace at Fontainebleau. Napoleon the First spent ten millions of francs at Fontainebleau—his nephew appears anxious to be only less economical. Already he has built a new theatre, almost reconstructed the *Pavillon du Tibre*, and made important alterations in the grounds, under the direction of M. Lefuel, the architect charged with the continuation of the Louvre. M. Chautard, in the *Revue des Beaux Arts*, describes the Fontainebleau restorations as marvellous successes.

A curious document has been lately found amongst the papers of a rich Versailles tradesman recently deceased. This document is an account of the building expenses incurred by Louis the Fourteenth, under Manard. The account is drawn up by Mariner, a clerk in the architect's employ. We add a few items. Versailles, Marly, and dependencies, 116,233,893 livres—Saint-Germain, 6,155,551 livres—Fontainebleau, 2,775,746 livres—Chambord, 1,225,701 livres—Louvre and Tuilleries, 10,008,969 livres—the Observatory, 725,174 livres—the Invalides, 1,718,382 livres—Place Vendôme, 2,062,699 livres—Canal de Langueudo, 7,736,555 livres—Gobelins, &c., 3,645,943 livres—on account of manufactures, 1,979,990—total, 158,000,000 livres, or upwards of six millions sterling!

M. Étienne Leroy has now finished the restoration of the Rubens pictures in the Cathedral of Anvers, and the Belgian Minister of the Interior, together with the artists of the Belgian Academy, have expressed their perfect satisfaction with the restorer's work. Precautions are being taken, also, to guard these paintings against the damp and draughts to which they were exposed.

A Correspondent in Florence writes.—Mr. Hart, an American sculptor residing in this city, has taken out a patent in America, and is about to take out one in England and France, for an invention which will interest Art-readers. He has been engaged upon it for nine or ten years, and has only recently succeeded in bringing it into its present working state. Before I give you a description of it, let me say that it aims at reducing labour, and at giving unerringly the outline of the figure. As it works on mathematical calculations, its measurements of course must be infallible. Another great advantage of it is, that it enables the artist to fix his ideas on the instant,—an advantage which particularly affects drapery. Let it be ever so well arranged on your cast it droops, a fold loses its fullness, and it is excessively difficult to work out the original arrangement; whereas this instrument obtains such immediate and accurate measurements as not to be deviated from. "Once that I have made them," said Mr. Hart, "my man can work them out as well

as myself; and I am free to pursue other objects." As the patents are not yet all completed, I am not at liberty to give a description of the instrument, which I saw, as well as some busts which had been worked by it. I may say generally, however, that it transfers from the life to clay, plaster, or any other substance, all human forms in their mathematical proportions and relations to one another with a despatch and accuracy unattainable by the eye in harmony and expression. It will also transfer with mathematical precision all forms in sculpture already produced to marble or any other material, without in the slightest degree injuring them. In this respect it is to statuary what photography is to painting. Amongst other objects, in its wide application, it will transfer draperies to the clay models from the figures before they become rigid. Thus both the sculptor and the workman, with increased facility and perfection, complete whatever is undertaken in actuality from the life, or in ideality that which has been hitherto produced.

## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

M. Scheurmann deserves thanks from all interested in good pianoforte training and good pianoforte music, for having republished *Twelve Studies*, by Louis Berger, under the superintendence of Herr Engel. By their vigour, by their variety, by their reality—as pieces useful to the student and welcome to the listener—they recall to us the value of Herr Berger as a composer, and his worth as a professor. Though the latter fact was in some degree authenticated by the performances of his pupil, Mendelssohn,—he was one of those geniuses to whom the quality of tuition is comparatively unimportant, since they draw their strength and proficiency out of their own energies. These 'Studies,' then, are a more conclusive testimony,—and may be commended as in merit kindred to the *Studies* of M. Moscheles:—in other words, as pianoforte music of the Augustan age. No lover of the ancients, even if he conceives Sebastian Bach as "the be-all and end-all" of instrumental invention,—no modern romanticist who finds Chopin too conventional, and accordingly looks to Dr. Liszt as to the great pioneer in his art,—can at some stage of his education dispense with training which shall be clear of ancient formality and of modern licence. During this period these 'Studies' of Berger will fulfil a function in a manner both satisfactory and interesting to musicians, whether of the old or of the new schools.

*Third Set: Six Melodies for the Violin and Piano.* By Bernhard Molique. Op. 47. (Same publisher.)—These 'Melodies' by Herr Molique are, of their kind, almost as individual a boon to players as Mendelssohn's 'Lieder.' It may be urged, perhaps, that their composer is apt to disregard the peculiar form and use of the pianoforte in his distribution of the accompaniment,—regarding it sometimes as a substitute for the stringed quartet;—but in this 'Third Set,' he is more considerate of the pianist than formerly,—more flowing, also, we think, in his *cantilena*,—without having lost any of the quaintness and intellectual expressiveness which distinguish his ideas. Herr Molique's Melodies must be said, not sighed; hence violin-players of the operatic school will be able to make small effect with them. Those, on the other hand, of a better quality, to whom the writings of the classical Germans are familiar, will find and will give pleasure in drawing out the full meaning of these excellent compositions,—the multiplication of which speaks well for the health of English taste.

*Menuet.* By E. Pauer. (Ewer & Co.)—Herr Pauer improves in composition. However light or however brief be the work put forth, he seems rarely to speak without having something to say; and he says it, after the fashion neither of Spohr, nor of Chopin, nor (better still) of Mendelssohn. This 'Menuet' is a solid, pleasing movement, to be recommended as a study of playing *legato*.—*Tyrolienne pour le Piano*, par Wilhelm Ganz, Op. 1.,

is a slight piece, but with a marked melody in its movement, reminding us somewhat of that 'Tyrolean Song of Liberty' which, thanks to Moore's words, gave many a home-keeping Englishwoman her first idea of the Austrian Alps in days when Mr. Murray's Red Book was not thought of.—Here, also, may be mentioned *Three easy Sonatas*, (Ops. 41, 42, 43,) by Ignaz Lachner, (Seheurmänn,) which remind us of easy studies of their class, by Pleyel and Kozeluch, for the use of beginners. The learning of *Sonatas* is no bad preparation for a due appreciation of the orchestral symphony or of the chamber quartet.

Here is another memento of old times, its title-page garnished with unreadable letters. When the cipher is mastered it recommends to our notice Book I. of *Twelve English Bass Songs selected from the Dramatic Works of the last Century, now first reprinted, with a Pianoforte Accompaniment.* Arranged by Alfred Roffe. (Rudall, Rose, Carte & Co.)—The first half-dozen includes specimens by Bush, Pepusch, Bates, Smith, and Lampe. These are more curious to examine than they could be acceptable in performance. With the exception of Dr. Pepusch's song from 'Thomyris'—"How blest is a Soldier" (a rough, manly ditty, the best of the collection)—they are in the style which Handel perfected. Lampe's 'Lion's Song,' from 'Pyramus and Thisbe,' reminds us how many attempts were made to draw on Shakespeare's romantic plays as subjects for music before they were found by Italian opera-makers;—before the French 'Romeo and Juliet' and the German 'Macbeth' were thought of. In this *bravura* for Bottom there is a touch of the same comic humour that was thrown by Lampe into the music of his 'Dragon of Wantley.' But the set, we repeat, will be more interesting to the historian than to the public;—and time and labour have been thrown away in dishing up, with full accompaniments, productions the character of which would have been better studied supposing them to have been displayed in their pristine leanness.

Mr. E. Silas has set a song, "O speed away, ye Songs of Gladness," from the 'Amaranth' of Herr Redwitz; and in a simpler style, "I've waited long enough, Kathleen." (Cramer & Co.)—'Amaranth' seems to attract every one now desirous of writing a German song. To ourselves, the want of clearness and of character makes the verses of Herr Redwitz objectionable as text for music; and we do not wonder that Mr. Silas has been unable to escape their influence. His ballad is better, having more charm in the melody, and thus truer expression.—*Songs of the Seasons*, adapted to melodies by Beethoven, &c., by Josiah Pittman, (Seheurmänn,) must dispense with our good word:—since here we have melodies from Beethoven's instrumental works, forced into union with sacred words of common-place quality. We can only just forgive Moore the similar adaptations which occur in his 'National Melodies,' because of the poet's elegance of taste and the fancy of the lyrics which he joined to the tunes altered and appropriated. But Mr. Pittman has not found a comrade equal in poetry to Moore; neither do his accompaniments approach in felicity those of Moore's partner, Sir H. R. Bishop.—Mr. Longfellow's song, *Stars of the Summer Night*, set by Charles H. Compton (Cramer & Co.), has been already much better set by Herr Ferdinand Hiller.—Mr. Blockley has tried the American poet's *Excelsior* (Cramer & Co.) again, but that is a legend almost as entirely beyond the power of vocal music to sustain as 'The Ancient Mariner':—Something better will be found among *Four Songs*, by J. A. Walmisley (Cramer & Co.), to words from poems by Mrs. Elliott,—the third, a 'Dirge of Flowers,' being the best of the four. This music is written in the mixed style, neither wholly German nor wholly English; and hence may arise Mr. Walmisley's carelessness in regard to verbal euphony, which offers difficulties to the singer. To give an instance—"burstingly" is a word which must be evaded, not courted.—We have lastly to announce Mr. Wallace's *Asie dear*, Good by (Cramer & Co.)—*The Captive*, by Mr. E. M. Stevens (Ollivier & Co.)—and Mr. Tilleard's *The Briton's Address to the Navy* (Novello), a four-part song, aimed at the humour of

the moment, but which has hardly "bone and muscle" enough to become a standard British season.

## BARONET FOR 1855

CHRISTMAS PIECES.

THE theatrical entertainments devoted to the season are this year of three classes,—namely, the *Pantomime*, the *Burlesque* and the *Allegory*.

In the first kind of drama, DRURY LANE has this year achieved the greatest success. The subject and title of the pantomime is the nursery tale of 'Jack and Jill,' on which Mr. E. L. Blanchard has bestowed the embellishments of his wit and invention. Under his treatment, the simple story grows into manifold proportions; and his heroine is a pupil in the Culinary Art of Mrs. Glasse, who first taught the race of cooks that they must catch the hare before they could dress it. We are, accordingly, introduced to the implements of the kitchen, not in their ordinary form, but as animated and discursive beings; and to the "Table-Cloth Territory," as the scene of *Cruet Castle*, the residence of King Mustard. With exquisite foohery of this kind the action proceeds, until the transformations take place. The harlequinade is fuller of allusions to the times than usual, and is terminated with a startling effect. The Italian Brothers make a terrific flight from the gallery to the stage.—Boloeno was the *Clown*,—Milano the *Harlequin*,—and Mr. Cole *Pantaloen*.

The next in order is the *HAYMARKET*, which excels in a quality of pantomime, of which Mr. Buckstone set, last year, the example—a simple theme treated with simplicity, and depending on elegance rather than on excessive spectacle or breadth of humour. 'Little Boopce, who lost her Sheep,' is the childish argument of this drawing-room attempt at fun. Among its more attractive scenes are a *Fairy Conservatory* and a *Laburnum Grove*, which do great credit to Mr. Calcott's pencil. Miss Lydia Thompson, as the heroine, acted with her usual grace;—and the comic portion of the piece was creditably supported. A new clown, Mr. Appleby, made a successful *début* on the occasion.

The *PRINCESSES* was contented with the old story of 'Blue Beard,' which Mr. J. M. Morton has treated with his accustomed neatness. The scenery, by Messrs. Gordon and Lloyds, is for the most part on a grand and costly scale. The concluding portions are exceedingly elaborate. The 'Quarter-Deck of the Royal Albert, of 131 Guns,' is animated with all the details of an engagement; and the finale is a national allegorical *tableau*, in which figures are suspended in the air, after the manner of the apotheosis of *Marguerite*. Thus illustrated, the worn-out theme of the main action has been made sufficiently attractive, with the aid of Miss Desborough as *Chambermaid*.

The little *STRAND THEATRE* has a pantomime performed by little people, for little people. It is on the subject of 'Taffy the Welshman'; and is enacted throughout by children. The Master and Miss Edouins support the principal characters, and evince much promise.

SADLER'S WELLS takes 'The Forty Thieves' for its theme; and in its development contrives a pageant, in which the inexhaustible nature of the poetic imagination, and the perishable condition of *Melodram* and Spanish *Outcaper*, are elaborately illustrated. The pantomime is therefore a defence of the management as supporting the legitimate drama, and a satire on those houses that depend on an inferior kind of amusement. Nor is this sort of self-gratulation to be condemned, considering all circumstances;—the opposition to be surmounted, the perseverance to be exhibited, the discouragements continually thrown out, and the length of time during which the management has pursued the elevated purpose which it was the first to announce.

The *MARYLEBONE* presents its audience with a pantomime by Mr. Nelson Lee, which combines the interest of the story of 'Young Nerval on the Grampian Hills,' with that of 'Lord Ullin's Daughter.' The hero and heroine are "made acquaint" after the approved fashion in such cases provided.

The extraordinary depth of the stage is brought to bear on the scenic effects, and particularly on the accessories of the transformation crisis. The general argument is the triumph of Civilization over Barbarism; and the appointments are all on a scale of magnificence not usually ventured at a suburban theatre.

ASTLEY'S and the *CITY OF LONDON* have also pantomimes by Mr. Nelson Lee, who is manager of the latter. The subjects are 'Gulliver's Travels,' and 'Birds, Beasts, and Fishes; or, Harlequin's Natural History.' In the former the horses perform the principal parts, and in the latter the signs of the zodiac and the tribes of zoology are made tributary to a purpose in which instruction is blended with amusement.

Our burlesque writers have also found employment for their peculiar vein. Mr. Planché reigns at the *OLYMPIC*, to which he has contributed one of his best extravaganzas, on the subject of 'The Yellow Dwarf,' taken from one of the stories of the Countess d'Aulnoy. The hero, who is well furnished for the occasion with tragic elements, is personated by Mr. Robson with that peculiar power which he has for what may be called the passionate burlesque. The piece is splendidly mounted, and aims at a literary and pictorial kind of merit, which will give it the lead in the estimation of the judicious.

Mr. W. Brough is the presiding genius of the *LYCEUM*, where, with the aid of Mr. Beverly, he has produced, with great pictorial effect, a fairy tale, of which he claims the invention. The title of the piece is 'Prince Prettypet and the Butterfly,' and sets forth, in the author's own whimsical style, the dangers of the Butterfly Princess and the machinations of the King of the Beetles. Two scenes, the Crystalline Haunt of the Butterflies, and the Throne of their Queen, respectively terminating the first and second acts, are brilliant examples of the scene-painter's inventive ingenuity and real artistic powers.

Mr. Francis Talfourd does the honours at the *ST. JAMES'S*,—his subject being derived from the Arabian Nights—'Abon Hassan; or, the Hunt after Happiness.' The story is too well known to need repetition; and touching the extravagance of pun and parody to be expected from this young writer previous experience has left "no loop to hang a doubt upon."

The *ADELPHI* has ventured upon an Allegory,—oddly entitled, 'Zigzag Travels of Messrs. Danube and Pruth, with numerous Cuts.' The rivers are impersonated, and the late deeds of arms done on their banks, as also those in connexion with the Black Sea and the Baltic, are cleverly symbolized and profusely illustrated. Every opportunity for spectacle has been seized, and the result is an animated series of pictures, in which the war with Russia is more or less fancifully represented and "improved" dramatically.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.**—Our musical gossip for the week must limit itself to announcements.—Mr. E. T. Smith advertises for the New Year, a translation by Mr. Reynoldson, of Gluck's 'Iphigénie en Tauride,' to succeed his 'adaptation' of M. Meyerbeer's 'L'Étoile du Nord' at Drury Lane. The artists who are to appear in these operas, and the conductor under whose musical superintendence they will be produced, are not yet advertised.—M. Julien, for his second series of Promenade Concerts, which were to begin at Covent Garden Theatre last evening, promises Madame Pleyel for the piano;—Herr Ernst for the violin;—Signor Bottesini (if he arrive from America) for the double bass;—among other compositions, the entire music of M. Meyerbeer's 'Struensee,'—and, besides his usual Beethoven and Mendelssohn nights, a Mozart night.

The *New Philharmonic Society*, we hear, is about to migrate from *St. Martin's Hall* back to its original quarters at *Exeter Hall*. Report adds, that M. Berlioz is engaged to conduct two of the Concerts: the remainder, we apprehend, being entrusted to Herr Lindemann, whose re-engagement, it will be recollected, was announced at the close of last season.

The French journals which averred that there

would be no masked balls at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris this Christmas were wrong; those entertainments being advertised as about to recommence.—It would seem just now as if theatrical information was given only to be contradicted. The following statement in a December number of the *New York Musical Gazette* will surprise many besides ourselves. It is there announced that a new opera company, in addition to the three already in the "States," is about to commence operations. The list of engagements follows:—

"Madame Clara Novello is a certainty; Johanna Wagner, a probability. Signora Brambilla is mentioned amongst others, and Signor Beraldi, the young tenor, who gave a much satisfaction with *Max Maretzki*. This troupe, it is expected, will commence their representations about the 15th of January, but where is not yet arranged."

We fancy that there must be some poetical licence in the above list of promises.

In theatrical matters our French allies seem to have been showing more than their usual winter alacrity. We read of a pleasant success lately won by M. Samson's one-act comedy in verse, 'Le Dot de ma Fille,' at the *Théâtre Français*—of two successes at the *Gymnase*—one for 'L'École des Agneaux,' by M. Dumanoir, and the other for a piece of mirth, 'Le Chapeau d'un Horloger,' by Madame Émile de Girardin, which is universally agreed to be a capital piece of farce. French authoresses seem to be bringing some freshness and novelty to the French stage. Here, by the way, we may mention that Madame Roger de Beauvoir has got rid of the universal interdiction against her drama, 'Entre deux airs,' which we spoke of a week or two since. Meanwhile, coarser viands are not wanting to those whose appetite leads them to what is strong and exciting. A *héroïne* seems to have been made at that *Ultima Thule* of the Boulevard theatres the *Théâtre Beaumarchais*, by 'Le Cor donnier de Crécy,'—a drama in three acts, by M. Luchet.

## MISCELLANEA

*Paxton's Magazine of Botany.*—SIR,—Will you kindly afford me space in your valuable journal to correct your report of the sale of the publications of Mr. Owen Jones and Messrs. Orr, by Mr. Hodgson, on the 12th inst., which, as it stands in your last week's number, is injurious to myself. It is there stated, that 100 sets of Paxton's Magazine of Botany were sold for 320*l*. Now, I beg to inform your readers that the auctioneer had not one perfect set of that work for sale, although set forth as such in his advertisement. What he had to dispose of were, 100 imperfect sets of letter-press to the said work, with the copper-plates and woodcuts. I purchased from Messrs. Orr, in February last, fifty perfect sets of this work, for which I gave them 500*l*, with an understanding that these sets were all that could be made complete. Having copies still for sale, your statement is likely to injure me in disposing of them, as the greater number of my customers are readers of the *Athenæum*. Trusting to your kindness for the insertion of the above correction, I remain, &c., G. WILLIS.

*Corrected Edition.*—SIR,—In last Saturday's *Athenæum* I saw some strictures on the words 'worse,' 'more,' &c. in my Common Prayer-Book, printed at Edinburgh, by Alexander Kincaid, his Majesty's printer, 1769, the word 'more' occurs in the Psalms:—they shall be no more than I am able to express. In another part of the Psalms I found the word 'movers':—they gaped upon me and made moan as we. This is evidently the same as the French, 'leur moue'; but, I think, that in modern Prayer Books 'mou' is changed into 'month.' In the general Thanksgiving, 'Almighty God, Father of all mercies,' the sentence occurs in my Prayer Book, and that we may show forth thy praise. In all modern Prayer Books it is, 'that we show forth.' In the Lord's Prayer itself, the conclusion is thus written in my book:—'For thine is the Kingdom, and thine the Power, and the Glory'; but in all the new Prayers it is, 'the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory.' If it be said that slight verbal corrections, to suit the improved grammatical ear of the age, may be introduced, let the same be done avowedly,—and let 'for be' and 'for to see,' and that very wide-spread error, 'as though' for 'as if' be corrected also; but let no alterations be introduced by the printer of his own will, and if so introduced, let the carelessness or blindness of the clergy be noticed by the laity. Yours, &c., NABUN TATE.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—G. H.—W. R. & J. W.—P. S.—received.

Errata.—Page 1508, col. 3, l. 31, for '12*l*. to 15*l*.' read 12*l*. to 16*l*.—Page 1508, col. 3, l. 57, for 'Lyceum,' read *Olympic*.

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40	£0 17 8	£0 19 0	£1 15 10	£1 11 0	50	£0 17 8	£0 19 0
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Age at Entry.	Sum Annual Premium to insure £1000 on the Northampton Rates to assure £1000.	Assured by the Economic Rates.	Thus giving an immediate Bonus of £1000.	Also a Contingent Bonus on Policies becoming Claims in 1854.	1854.	1855.	1856.	Total sum payable at Death, if occurring in 1854.
20	£ 10 10 0	£ 10 10 0	£ 1000	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 1330
30	£ 10 10 0	£ 10 10 0	£ 1000	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 1330
40	£ 10 10 0	£ 10 10 0	£ 1000	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 1330
50	£ 10 10 0	£ 10 10 0	£ 1000	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 1330
60	£ 10 10 0	£ 10 10 0	£ 1000	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 1330
70	£ 10 10 0	£ 10 10 0	£ 1000	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 1330
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90	£ 10 10 0	£ 10 10 0	£ 1000	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 110	£ 1330

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